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## LIFE &amp; STYLE

People, health, fashion, interiors and puzzles

## 16-PAGE SECTION



The UK economy is still over-reliant on London, on financial services and the banking system.

Rebecca Long Bailey

OPINION - PAGE 13

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# Closure of small schools 'not part of secret scheme to save money'

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THE LEADER of financially-strapped North Yorkshire County Council has dismissed claims that the closure of village schools has been part of a secret money-saving scheme.

Councillor Carl Les defended the authority after its executive approved steps to close the 360-year-old Arkengarthdale Primary School in the Yorkshire Dales after pupil numbers fell to five. Its members said they were dismayed by the loss of another small, rural school.

While there were more than 170 primary schools in the coun-

ty in 2004 with fewer than 100 pupils, the council now oversees about 110 small schools.

Alongside the closure of the 12-pupil school at Horton-in-Ribblesdale in July 2017, six other school gates have been closed for the final time.

These were located in Drax, Rathmell, Ingleby Arncliffe, Skippton Ings, Swainby and Potto and Burnt Yates.

A cloud of uncertainty also hangs over the future of West Burton School.

The closures have been greeted with alarm by community leaders, particularly in national parks, where the presence of a school is seen as key to retaining families in the community.

The move towards the closure of Arkengarthdale comes just two weeks after the council's chief executive, Richard Flinton, highlighted the authority had "serious concerns" over the financial position of some rural schools.

He said: "There are no alternatives for these areas."

"We cannot afford for these schools to close because of the sheer distances pupils would have to travel."

Coun Les told the executive that the authority had been accused of trying to claw back money by closing small schools.

He said small schools continued to be very good places for learning as long as they had more than about 20 pupils.

Coun Les said: "It is a very sad day when we have to approve a consultation about a school closure."

"We don't do this lightly, but the numbers of children at Arkengarthdale have fallen to such a level that the school is no longer viable and it certainly isn't providing a quality education."

"It's better to close that school

**"The county council does not have a programme of closure."**

Carl Les, North Yorkshire County Council leader.

and move the children to another one."

"Fortunately, there is a school only 3.7 miles away, so it isn't a huge distance that people have to travel."

To help maintain smaller schools, the authority sets aside some schools block funding to support good or outstanding schools with falling rolls, where planning data shows that the surplus places will be needed within the next three financial years.

Coun Les said despite this there continued to be a misconception that there is in the community that we have a programme of closure of small schools".

He added: "The county council does not have a programme of

closure, it actually costs us money when a school is closed so we are certainly not doing it for financial reasons.

"We only consider the closure of a school at the request of the governing body."

Coun Les was also asked if small schools were still financially viable.

He said: "They have their financial challenges and we have been making representations to Government for some time now saying there needs to be a core fund that gets put into a school to allow it to operate irrespective of the numbers, because the funding is driven by the numbers attending an educational establish-

ment."

## £14bn claim against Mastercard reopened by ruling

A £14BN damages claim brought against Mastercard on behalf of millions of UK consumers has been revived by a "landmark" ruling by the Court of Appeal.

The former financial ombudsman Walter Merricks is trying to bring legal action against the card giant on behalf of an estimated 46.2 million people.

He alleges that Mastercard's breaches of competition law, found by the European Commission in 2007, led to UK consumers paying higher prices on purchases.

Mr Merricks' proposed class action was thrown out in July 2017 by a specialist tribunal, which ruled it was "not suitable to be brought in collective proceedings".

But giving judgment in London, judges found that the Competition Appeal Tribunal (CAT) applied the wrong legal test in deciding on the claim. It will now have to be reconsidered by the CAT.

In a statement after the ruling Mr Merricks said: "It is nearly 12 years since Mastercard was clearly told that they had broken the law by imposing excessive card transaction charges, damaging consumers over a prolonged period.

"As a result we all had to pay higher prices in the shops than we should have done while Mastercard have pocketed the profits."

Mr Merricks' solicitor Boris Bronfenbrenner said: "Today is truly a landmark day for all UK consumers that Mr Merricks seeks to represent in a claim to recover the billions in damages caused to them by Mastercard's unlawful anti-competitive conduct."

A Mastercard spokeswoman said the company was seeking permission to appeal against the ruling to the Supreme Court.

She said in a statement: "Mastercard continues to disagree fundamentally with the basis of the claim and we believe UK consumers receive real value from the security, convenience and consumer protection of our payment services."

## Bunton brushes off Spice Girls rift rumours

EMMA BUNTON has brushed off rumours of a rift between the Spice Girls following Leeds-born Melanie Brown's absence from rehearsals for their tour.

Brown did not join Bunton, Geri Horner and Melanie Chisholm for the first day of rehearsals on Monday, sparking speculation of a row between the group following Brown's recent claims that she previously had a one-night stand with Horner.

As her co-stars joined forces in a dance studio in London, Brown posted a picture on Instagram of herself in a bikini, seemingly taken in Los Angeles, where she lives. However, Bunton has said that Brown is rehearsing for the tour, but separately from the others due to previous commitments.

Bunton told ITV's *This Morning*: "Me, Geri and Mel C were there. Mel B is rehearsing in LA because she's still got commitments and her children, so she's rehearsing there, which is really funny."

"She learns the same steps as us... we were doing a bit of FaceTiming."



### FLYING HIGH

Six-year-old Zack Roberts flies his kite at the South Bay in Scarborough yesterday. The forecast for the rest of the week is for warmer weather than the recent cold snap with only a slight chance of rain, with Saturday due to see temperatures of up to 21C.

PICTURE: SIMON HULME

## GPS 'could help dementia patients'

GPS COULD begin prescribing tailored technology to dementia patients to help them live at home for longer, scientists say.

A new £20m research centre at Imperial College London will develop low-cost tools to better manage the condition outside of hospitals and care homes.

Sensors which monitor activity, devices which track vital signs and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to detect changes in behaviour are among the approaches being ex-

plored. The vision is to create a "dementia-friendly" home which continually assesses a patient's wellbeing.

Those behind the project believe it could cut hospital admissions from preventable illnesses and falls by alerting healthcare workers to anything of concern as early as possible.

"I think we are not that far away from having that level of electronic engagement."

Professor David Sharp, head of the new centre, said doctors could begin offering such technology to patients within the next decade,

following further research. "The GP might have a dashboard of different apps or different ways of engaging with people that they select, and then give a personalised package of apps that are particularly relevant to individuals," he said.

The new centre joins six others which together make up the UK Dementia Research Institute.

The project, a collaboration with the University of Surrey, will be funded by the Medical Research Council, Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Research UK.

one million by 2025. An estimated one in four hospital beds are occupied by people with dementia and 20 per cent of these admissions are preventable, the researchers said.

The new centre joins six others which together make up the UK Dementia Research Institute.

The project, a collaboration with the University of Surrey, will be funded by the Medical Research Council, Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Research UK.



**SCIENCE TREASURES:**  
Notebooks that belonged to geologist Sir Charles Lyell.

of *On the Origin of Species* in 1859 form part of the archive.

Mr Ellis said: "This archive reveals the workings of one of the most influential scientists of the last 200 years and provides us with an extraordinary insight into a time when science was changing long-held beliefs about the world."

After Darwin returned from the Beagle voyage in 1836, Lyell – who is credited with laying the foundations for evolutionary biology by showing the Earth itself was shaped by the same scientific principles seen today – acted as his principal mentor.

Lyell's copies of letters sent to Darwin following the publication

## AI software defeats top video gamers

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE software has beaten a human team of world champion professional video game players for the first time.

A team built and trained by research company OpenAI beat the current world champions of online battle game *Dota 2*, the sub-

ject of one of the world's largest esports' competitions.

The OpenAI Five team beat human team OG 2-0 at a live event in San Francisco.

It was the first time it achieved the feat in public, despite victories over other human teams behind closed doors.

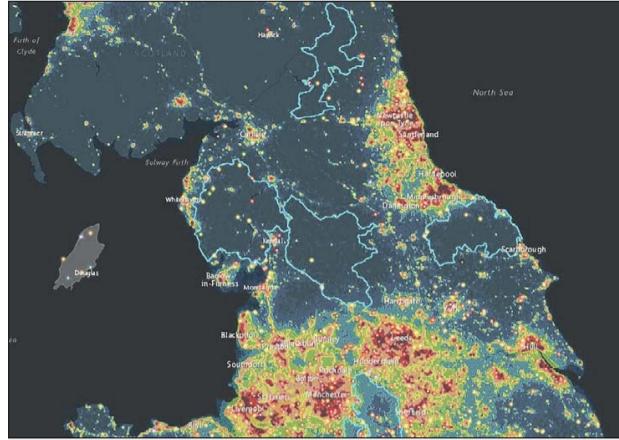
OpenAI said the difference between defeat on that occasion and victory in the latest meeting was extra training.

In a blog post, OpenAI said its new software had experienced the equivalent of "45,000 years of *Dota 2* play over 10 real-time months" to train for the match.

Bunton told ITV's *This Morning*: "Me, Geri and Mel C were there. Mel B is rehearsing in LA because she's still got commitments and her children, so she's rehearsing there, which is really funny."

"She learns the same steps as us... we were doing a bit of FaceTiming."

## Light pollution creeps into even rural parts, but National Parks remain oases of darkness for stargazers



**NATURAL WONDER:** Star trails, such as those over Arthington viaduct in Wharfedale, left, are becoming harder for many to see due to light pollution, a survey for the Campaign to Protect Rural England suggests.

MAIN PICTURE: BRUCE ROLLINSON



# Black holes in Yorkshire's night sky

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ON A heat map of Northern England, they are as black as the sky itself.

The oceans of emptiness represented by the National Parks of the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors are among the last places left in which, on a winter's night, outdoor types can look up and still see the heavens.

Across the rest of the region, and for more than half the population of England, light pollution has almost obliterated the stars, a cosmic census of the night sky has found.

**"The majority were unable to experience the wonder of a truly dark sky."**

Emma Marrington, dark skies campaigner at the Campaign to Protect Rural England.

Only two per cent of participants in a nationwide survey conducted in February were able to count more than 30 stars in what are termed "truly dark skies", while some 57 per cent struggled to see more than 10, according to the research by the Campaign to Protect Rural England.

The findings come as a long-

term strategy produced by the North York Moors National Park proposes protection against light pollution and for defined "remote areas" more than 1km from the nearest main road.

People in urban and rural parts had been encouraged to count the number of stars they could see with the naked eye within the constellation of Orion, which is only visible in the winter months.

The results show light pollution in not only the most densely populated areas of West and South Yorkshire, but also, to a lesser extent, in the rural A1 corridor between the Dales and North York Moors.

The findings demonstrate that pollution affects "one of the countryside's most magical sights – a dark, starry night sky", campaigners said.

More could be done by Government, councils and the public to lessen the negative effects caused by artificial light from streets and buildings, the group added.

Emma Marrington, dark skies campaigner at the Campaign to Protect Rural England, said: "We're hugely grateful to the many people who

took the time to get out and take part in our star count.

"But it's deeply disappointing that the vast majority were unable to experience the natural wonder of a truly dark sky, blanketed with stars.

"Without intervention, our night sky will continue to be lost under a veil of artificial light, to the detriment of our own health, and the health of the natural world.

"The Star Count results show

just how far-reaching the glow from street lights and buildings can be seen.

"Light doesn't respect boundaries, and careless use can see it spread for miles from towns, cities, businesses and motorways, resulting in the loss of one of the countryside's most magical sights – a dark, starry night sky."

He suggested that better-designed lighting, street light dimming schemes and part-night lighting implemented in consultation with local communities and the police, could limit the damage caused by light pollution, reduce carbon emissions and save money.

### Lighting ban

IN THE North York Moors, planners have proposed a ban on artificial external lighting in remote areas and in open countryside except where it is essential for safety.

The National Park's planning director, Chris France, inset, said: "Many children who have lived in cities don't actually see the stars in the Milky Way, and they come to the North York Moors and see a whole new wondrous environment.

"It is the essence of what national parks are about."

Britons spend £3,200 a year on holidays

## Tens of thousands stay up late for Game of Thrones episode

FOR THE most dedicated of fans, it needed to be an extremely late night – or a very early start.

But tens of thousands of *Game of Thrones* enthusiasts stayed up – or woke up – to watch the first transmission of the first episode of series eight live at 2am on Monday.

The episode was shown at the same time as it was broadcast for the first time in the US on HBO, giving the chance to see one of the most eagerly anticipated television events of the year.

A spokesman for Sky Atlantic confirmed yesterday that the first episode of the new series has already been watched by 3.4 million viewers.

Some 192,000 enthusiasts stayed up until the early hours of Monday to watch the first episode. That transmission has now been viewed by a total of 2.7 million fans in the UK who recorded the early broadcast or watched on demand, as well as those who tuned in live.

The episode aired for a second time at 9pm in the UK and that transmission has been watched by 698,000 people, including



PREMIERE: Kit Harington as Jon Snow and Emilia Clarke as Daenerys Targaryen in Game of Thrones.

PICTURE: HBO VIA AP PHOTO

those who watched live in prime-time.

The figure is expected to increase significantly as more *Game Of Thrones* fans catch up on the series premiere on demand, through Sky + recordings and through repeats.

After the broadcast, fans in the UK said they were relieved they could "finally come out of hiding" after making it to the series eight debut without hearing any spoilers.

Many people tuning in to the

second showing said they had stayed off social media all day in case any of the programme's secrets were spilled before they could watch for themselves.

The six-episode finale will bring to a conclusion the saga of who will rule from the Iron Throne – almost two years after the end of the previous season.

*Game Of Thrones* is based on George RR Martin's series of fantasy novels, *A Song Of Ice And Fire*, and adapted for television by David Benioff and DB Weiss.

### Briefing

Young brothers to walk marathon

**CHARITY:** Two young brothers will walk the London Marathon course to help the homeless.

Nicholas Harrison, eight, and Alex, six, will take on the 26.2 mile route on April 27, the day before the official race, to raise money for St Mungo's homeless charity.

**A pint of learning for pub-goers**

**EDUCATION:** Academics from universities in Sheffield, Leeds, Hull and York will take their findings to the pub as part of the Print of Science festival.

Almost 400 cities worldwide will host events from May 20 to 22 to give pub-goers the chance to hear new ideas.

**Skinner returns to Festival Fringe**

**SCOTLAND:** Comedian Frank Skinner will return to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe this summer ahead of his new stand-up tour in the autumn.

This year he will perform at the Gordon Aikman Theatre from July 31 until August 18.

## Bafta honour for Baroness Bakewell

BARONESS JOAN Bakewell, one of the defining TV figures of the 1960s, will be honoured for her contribution to the medium with the Bafta Television Fellowship at the organisation's TV awards next month.

The broadcaster, 86, will be celebrated for a career spanning more than 50 years, from BBC2's first arts magazine, *Late Night Line-Up*, in which she acquired the soubriquet of the thinking man's fantasy, to *Heart Of The Matter* and the 2001 series *Taboo*, which played on her reputation by exploring taste, decency and censorship.

In her 2004 autobiography, *The Centre of the Bed*, Baroness Bakewell, inset, wrote of her experiences as a woman in the male-dominated media environment of the time, and of her seven-year affair with the playwright Harold Pinter, while he was married to the actress Vivien Merchant and she to the BBC's head of plays, Michael Bakewell.

She will receive special awards alongside producer Nicola Shindler and script supervisor Emma Thomas, and said she was "thrilled to see so many women nominated this year".

Baroness Bakewell added: "I have been a broadcaster for many decades now and seen major changes along the way, not least the advancement of women both on the screen and in many roles behind it."

Ms Shindler, whose Red Production Company is responsible shows such as *Queer As Folk*, *Clocking Off* and the Yorkshire police drama *Happy Valley*, said her goal had been to "make drama that I wanted to watch and that always challenged the audience as well as entertained".

She said: "I'm not done. I continue to be excited by new ideas every day, and I can't wait to see what the next 20 years brings."

Ms Thomas has worked on such shows as *Goodnight Sweetheart* and *Birds Of A Feather*.

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# 'No gain' for EU from no-deal Brexit

## STRASBOURG SPEECH

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**JEAN-CLAUDE JUNCKER:**  
Told MEPs the EU had contingency measures for a no-deal Brexit.

"But our union has nothing to gain from great disruption in the United Kingdom."

"The only ones who would benefit are those who resent

multilateralism and seek to undermine the global legal order." Mr Juncker made the comments as he addressed the European Parliament in Strasbourg on last week's European Council summit at which Theresa May was offered a six-month Brexit delay.

Donald Tusk, the Council President, said the extension until October 31 meant the UK was likely to hold European elections next month.

And he hinted that Brexit could be delayed further – or even reversed – as he said British MEPs may be members of the Parliament for more than several months.

Mr Tusk said: "One of the consequences of our decision is that

the UK will hold European elections next month. We should approach this seriously as UK members of the European Parliament will be there for several months – maybe longer."

"They will be full members of the Parliament with all the rights and obligations. I am speaking about this today because I have strongly opposed the idea that during this further extension the UK should be treated as a second category member state. No, it cannot."

"Therefore I also ask you to reject similar ideas if they were to be voiced in this House."

Mr Tusk added that he still had "dreams" of Brexit being cancelled.

Also addressing MEPs, Euro-

pean Parliament Brexit Co-ordinator Guy Verhofstadt expressed his fear that Brexit will "poison" the European elections.

Referring to the latest delay, he

said: "I fear that it will continue the uncertainty."

"I fear that it will prolong the indecision."

"And I fear most of all that it

will import the Brexit mess into the European Union."

"And moreover that it will poison the upcoming European election."

Brexit Party leader Nigel Farage told the European Parliament his party would "sweep the board" at the elections on May 23 – and would win a general election if Mrs May and Mr Corbyn agree to the "betrayal" of a permanent customs union.

In Westminster, cross-party talks between Labour and the Government continued.

Jeremy Corbyn said his party had demanded that any post-Brexit relationship must include a customs union, but he added: "The Government doesn't appear to be shifting the red lines."

## Rudd has 'door ajar' on plan for leadership

### TORIES

AMBER RUDD said she is "keeping the door slightly ajar" to a possible run to be Prime Minister as she played down suggestions she would team up with Boris Johnson on a joint ticket to replace Theresa May.

The Work and Pensions Secretary said she "didn't have a plan" to stand in a leadership contest but repeatedly refused to rule out joining the race to be the next Conservative leader.

Speaking on Radio 5 Live's *The Emma Barnett Show* she was asked if she wanted to take over from Mrs May, who will stand down once Brexit is delivered.

Ms Rudd said: "I'm going to continue to support the Prime Minister, she has said that she is going to leave after the Withdrawal Agreement of the first stage is through, so frankly what I think we should all be doing is trying to support her to make sure we do just that."

She added: "I can tell you I don't have a plan for it, I'm choosing my words carefully here."

Pressed on the issue the Minister said she did not have a leadership strategy worked out, and asked if she was "working on it" she replied: "No, I'm not particularly working on it, I'm speaking to you very genuinely here, I'm just working on supporting the Prime Minister."

Ms Rudd added: "What I've said is that I'm not planning to run, so I have kept the door slightly ajar, but I'm not committed to it at the moment." Asked about rumours she is planning on standing on a joint ticket with Mr Johnson, she said she was "not supporting anybody".



HOPE AND GLORY: Patriotic flag-waving at the Last Night of the Proms, but organisers are hoping that politics will be played down this year.

PICTURE: CARL COURT/AFP

## Proms climax 'should not be political night'

### CULTURE

THE LAST Night Of The Proms should not be a political occasion, the chief of the world-famous music festival has said, despite tensions over Brexit.

The programme for this year's event has been announced and it includes the first ever Prom dedicated to hip-hop.

Other highlights include an evening dedicated to Nina

Simone, and a concert to mark the 50th anniversary of man landing on the moon.

Since the Brexit referendum, some concert-goers at the Last Night Of The Proms have shown their solidarity with the European Union by waving EU flags.

Asked whether this year's finale, a traditionally patriotic occasion, will be a political hot potato, Proms director David

Pickard said: "I hope not. I want the Last Night not to be a political occasion but a musical occasion."

"It's a time for letting your hair down, it's a time to celebrate the end of this great festival and I don't want it to be a political platform."

"In the end, I can only say, from the three or four years I've been doing this job, the Last Night Of The Proms, whatever the political tensions there might

be, has always been and always felt like a great celebration of music."

The festival, based at the Royal Albert Hall and most famous for its classical music programme, will be featuring hip-hop with an orchestra. "There will be some breakdancing. There will also be some MC-ing and DJ-ing," Pickard said.

"We felt that, with the huge popularity of a musical like

Hamilton, which is based around hip-hop, now is the time to tap into something that is a very important, popular form of music."

He added: "It's now quite an old... (music genre). It's no longer the new thing. It's part of our society."

The Proms run from Friday July 19 to Saturday September 14. More info can be found at BBC.co.uk/proms.

### POLITICS DIGEST



VISITOR STRATEGY: The Piece Hall, Halifax has contributed to the astonishing growth of tourism in Calderdale. PICTURES: BRUCE FITZGERALD.

## Tourism 'an important area of growth in next five years for borough'

TOURISM HAS seen "extraordinary" success in Calderdale in recent years, say council officials, with plans now in place to maximise this potential over the next five years.

Calderdale Council's Cabinet approved a new Tourism Strategy which will lead up to the borough's 50th anniversary in 2024 with the conclusion that it is a major growth area.

Introducing the paper and outlining its importance, Cabinet member for Regeneration and Economic Strategy, Coun Barry Collins – at his last Cabinet meeting before standing down from the council in May – said Calderdale's tourism assets could grow the economy further.

He said: "Tourism is one of Calderdale's most extraordinary success stories. Tourism is worth almost £350m per year now to this

area and that's almost £100m more than 2010, it's an amazing transformation in less than a decade."

"Tourism supports around 5,000 full-time equivalent jobs in the borough. Visitor spend has increased by five per cent between 2016 and 2017 alone. This is an enormously important potential further growth area for us."

Coun Collins said this was the result of ambitious and inventive strategic planning, the latest plans bridging 2015 and now.

This was a period of time which had seen the emergence of Calderdale's international visitor profile with the listing of the Calder Valley and Hebden Bridge in the National Geographic magazine's World's Top 19 "to go" destinations and the full opening of Halifax Piece Hall following refurbishment.

£3.6m for bank chief 'excessive'

**BANKING:** Royal Bank of Scotland investors have been urged to vote down chief executive Ross McEwan's £3.6m pay packet, which has been branded 'excessive'.

Shareholder advisory firm PIRC said elements of Mr McEwan's pay award are "inappropriate", and pointed to the fact he is paid 46 times more than the average bank employee.

Tube union in new dispute over jobs

**TRANSPORT:** London Underground is facing an increased threat of industrial action in separate disputes over pay and jobs.

The Rail, Maritime and Transport union has already rejected a pay offer but is now embroiled in a row over jobs.

The union accused Transport for London of launching a programme which it says aims to cut costs through job losses.

## Minister 'uncomfortable' with legal aid fight by Jihadi bride



**SHAMIMA BEGUM:** Fighting decision to revoke her citizenship after quitting Britain to back IS.

stressed again that she made a decision to turn her back on Britain.

He added: "The Home Secretary has made a judgment, it was a fair judgment, and it is a shame public money is going this way."

Asked by reporters if the legal aid rules should be changed in the wake of her case, he added how "this goes to show that this is something that needs to be looked at afresh".

Legal aid is the public money which is paid to lawyers to help them lodge legal battles for clients facing a court or tribunal hearing.

It is aimed at ensuring that ordinary people have access to justice and is part of a safety net for someone who cannot afford to defend themselves.

But Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn defended Ms Begum's right to apply for legal aid, stating on Monday that whatever crimes Ms Begum was accused of, she was entitled to proper legal representation.

He said the decision by Mr Javid to strip the teenager of her citizenship was "very questionable".

The Leeds East MP said that when he was first challenged over the comments in 2016, he "did not recall" making the remarks and asked for further details.

He said: "I received no reply, so I believed it was inaccurate to have claimed that I had used that phrase. It is now clear that I did and I regret doing so."

The Leeds East MP had faced calls to apologise from the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Jewish Leadership Council.

Amanda Bowman, vice president of the Board of Deputies, said: "These comments were shameful."

Richard Burgen's denial and the subsequent revelation of his 2014 incitement against Zionists encapsulate the total sham of Labour's approach to anti-Semitism.

At the very least he should apologise for his comments and for his denial of them."

The footage of Mr Burgen's comments, from 2014, was unearthed by investigative reporter Iggy Ostanin.

RECORD NUMBERS of people are in work after a big increase in full-time jobs and self-employed, while the number of people in part-time jobs fell by 15,000, said the Office for National Statistics.

Employment jumped by 179,000 in the three months to February, to 32.7 million, the highest total since records began in 1971.

The figure has increased by 457,000 over the past year, all among full-time employees and the self-employed, while the number of people in part-time jobs fell by 15,000, said the Office for National Statistics.

Unemployment fell by 27,000 to 1.34 million, continuing a general trend which started in early

2012. The UK's unemployment rate of 3.9 per cent is now lower than at any time since the end of 1975.

Employment Minister Alok Sharma said: "The UK jobs market continues to go from strength to strength, proving the underlying resilience of the British economy."

The figure has increased by 457,000 over the past year, all among full-time employees and the self-employed, while the number of people in part-time jobs fell by 15,000, said the Office for National Statistics.

Unemployment fell by 27,000 to 1.34 million, continuing a general trend which started in early

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## NOTRE-DAME FIRE

Art treasures saved from flames as multi-million pound restoration plans launched for famed landmark



**BLAZE TRAGEDY:** Some of the priceless artworks moved to the Paris Hotel de Ville; the building in the wake of the blaze; French firefighters rushing to the scene; a glimpse through the doors shows how flames ripped through the roof.



PICTURES: GETTY IMAGES/AP

# The world rallies in solidarity to restore cathedral

**DAVID BEHRENS**  
COUNTY CORRESPONDENT  
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Twitter: @yorkshirepost

AMID THE ashes and the tears, it was some small consolation.

Notre-Dame, the masterpiece of French Gothic architecture that has for the best part of a millennium been at the epicentre of the spiritual life of Paris, lay partly in ruins, but its most precious treasures had been spared the inferno.

It was at around 7am local time that the devastating fire of the night before was declared to be fully extinguished. Some 12 hours earlier, a choir, hastily assembled within sight of the flames, had begun singing Schubert's *Ave Maria* in what seemed like a cry to the heavens. Video of their impromptu performance was flashed around the world.

Nearly 400 firefighters had fought through the night to prevent the complete destruction of the cathedral's unparalleled facade after flames engulfed its roof and sent its spire crashing to the ground.

One firefighter and two police officers were injured, but in the midst of the national and international grief, the French culture minister was able to announce that some of the most valuable treasures were safe – stored overnight in the Paris town hall, the Hôtel de Ville, and would be moved to the Louvre "as soon as possible".

The cathedral's treasured paintings are not likely to be removed until Friday morning.

## Macron 5-year rebuild target

**FRENCH PRESIDENT**  
Emmanuel Macron has set a target of five years for the ruined Notre Dame Cathedral to be rebuilt.

Mr Macron outlined his hopes for the restoration in an address to the nation last night, little more than 24 hours after the fire.

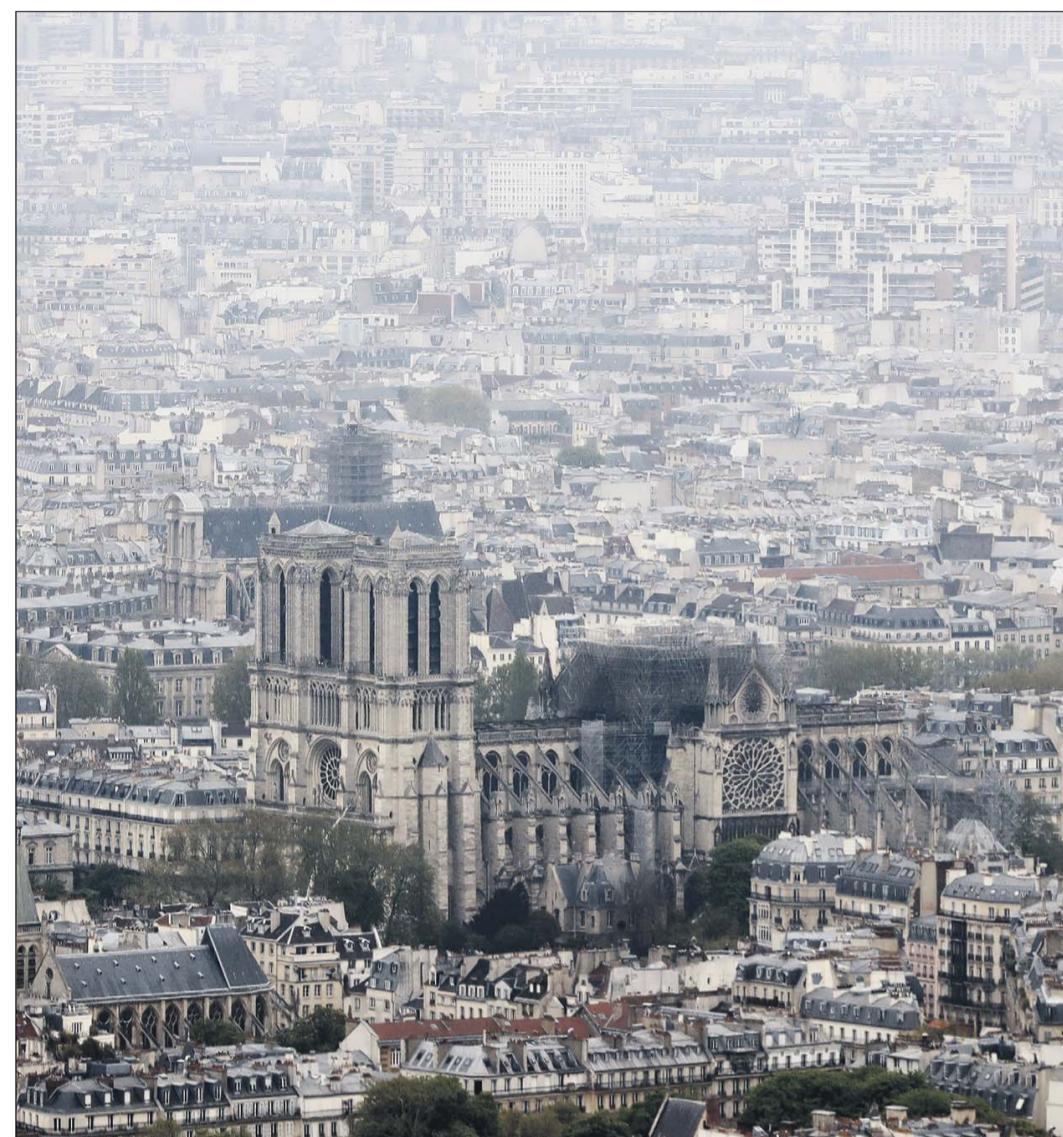
He said France "will rebuild Notre-Dame Cathedral even more beautifully" and pledged to "mobilise" as he thanked emergency services and donors who pledged money for the work.

In a series of tweets after the address, Mr Macron said: "We will rebuild Notre-Dame Cathedral, even more beautiful, and I hope that it will be completed within 5 years."

Franck Riester added. "They have not been damaged but there could be some damage from the smoke so we are going to take them safely and place them in the Louvre where they will be dehumidified and they will be protected, conserved and then restored," he said.

The tragedy has prompted an outpouring of support, with world leaders promising to help France rebuild.

In a message to President Emmanuel Macron, the Queen extended her "sincere admiration to the emergency



**RESCUED:** Notre-Dame cathedral from the top of the Montparnasse tower after the 12-hour battle to save it from the inferno

services who have risked their lives to try to save this important national monument".

Pope Francis said he was praying for French Catholics and the Parisian population "under the shock of the terrible fire".

Investigators believe it was caused by accident, possibly as a result of restoration work taking place. Some 50 people are working on a "long" and "complex" investigation into the cause, Paris prosecutor Remy Heitz said. They will interview workers from five companies hired to carry out renovations to the cathedral roof.

Speaking in front of the cathedral, junior interior minister Laurent Nunez said: "The task overnight was to

bring the fire under control so it doesn't re-start.

"The task is – now the risk of fire has been put aside – about the building, how the structure will resist."

Hundreds of millions of euros have been pledged to rebuild Notre-Dame. The French tycoon Bernard Arnault has pledged the equivalent of £173m towards the reconstruction, following a reported £86m from another billionaire, Francois Pinault.

The European Council's President Donald Tusk called on the EU's member countries to help, saying the site was a symbol of what binds Europe together. It reminded Europeans of "how much we can lose", he said.

**Comment:** Page 12.

## 'No doubt' that cathedral is repairable

### REPAIRS

TWO CRAFTSMEN who worked on the restoration of York Minster after the fire of 1984 said they had "no doubt" that Notre-Dame was repairable.

John David, master mason, and Geoff Brayshaw, lead joiner, said Monday's tragedy brought back memories of the night the Minster's South Transept was struck by lightning.

The men devoted the next four years to carrying out a £4m restoration of the Minster, and said they hoped those involved in the rebuilding of Notre-Dame would follow their example of using traditional materials and craftsmen.

"I was really upset for the people of Paris, as I remember people were upset in York," Mr David said. "I have no doubt that it's all repairable – and I think a lot of the people watching think it won't be repairable, but we know it can be."

The two men said the stone-built vaults at Notre-Dame had meant it was more difficult to contain the blaze, with resulting greater damage to the roof.

"It's a symbol of the glory of God but it's also a symbol of the generations of people of France," Mr David said.

"It's a huge opportunity to train craftsmen in traditional building repair methods that the whole world needs."

## British heritage experts 'ready to assist restoration efforts'

### STAINED GLASS

HERITAGE EXPERTS from Britain are ready to help those who will be tasked with restoring Notre-Dame Cathedral, according to one of the world's leading voices on medieval stained glass.

Sarah Brown, the director of the York Glaziers Trust, which cares for the windows at York Minster, said her team had already been in contact with colleagues in France.

She said: "The stained glass community is not big but it's close," she said. "There are plenty of people willing to help who have a high level of expertise."

Ms Brown, who oversaw the restoration of York Minster's Great East Window, Britain's largest expanse of medieval stained glass, said it was difficult to speculate on the damage at Notre-Dame, but that stained glass was "remarkably resilient" in fire.

"Obviously it's a terrible shock,



**SARAH BROWN:** There are plenty of people willing to help who have a high level of expertise.

PICTURE: STEVE RIDING

a tragedy," she said. "We in York had our own fire in 1984 so we can connect with what they must be feeling in Paris."

Emma Wells, from the University of York, said: "Our cathedrals are stone phoenixes, reminders that out of adversity we may be reborn."

"From the ashes they may be recreated, renovated, altered and changed as they have been over the centuries by hundreds, even thousands, of men and women into the cultural and heritage icons we know and love today."

**Great cathedral that rose from the ashes:** Page 11.

ONLINE VISIT OUR WEBSITE [yorkshirepost.co.uk](http://yorkshirepost.co.uk)

### WESTMINSTER

THE SHOCKING scenes of the blaze at Notre-Dame "is exactly what we all dread to see", the architect in charge of the upkeep of Westminster Abbey has said.

Architect Ptolemy Dean, Westminster Abbey's Surveyor of the

Fabric, said: "I just feel absolutely horrified that this could happen and there is nothing you can do when a fire like that grabs hold. You are left in hands of the fire brigade."

He said Paris had been a powerhouse of impressive Gothic architecture from the 11th and 12th

centuries, and had influenced many buildings in England, including Westminster Abbey.

He said: "It is exactly what we all dread to see – a vital building going up in flames. It is a vital part of our historical progression and to have lost it would have been a catastrophe."

## Crown of Thorns is among saved relics

### TREASURES

NOTRE-DAME IS associated with some of the world's most cherished objects and artworks.

Stored in its treasury and now in safekeeping is the Crown of Thorns, purported to be a relic of the wreath of thorns placed on the head of Jesus Christ at his crucifixion.

King Louis IX brought the artefact, contained in an elaborate gold case, to Paris in 1238.

The Tunie of Saint Louis, the simple garment said to have been worn by Louis IX as he brought the Crown of Thorns to Paris, was also kept at the cathedral, and is said by the Paris mayor, Anne Hidalgo, to be also safe.

Among the most famous architectural features of the cathedral are the three Rose Windows, which are treasured artworks in their own right. They date to the 13th century, and adorn the north, south and west facades.

All three are thought to have escaped destruction after firefighters stopped the blaze from spreading further.

The deputy mayor of Paris, Emmanuel Gregoire, said Notre-Dame's Great Organ also remained intact. With nearly 8,000 pipes, some dating back to the 1700s, it is one of the largest such instruments in the world, and was restored only six years ago.

The cathedral's bells, immortalised by Victor Hugo in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and which have rung out at key moments in France's history, were also spared from the flames.

## MID SEASON SALE

### STARTS TOMORROW

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20% OFF Joules (selected lines only)



UP TO 50% OFF Shoes



UP TO 30% OFF Linens



20% OFF Joules (selected lines only)



UP TO 20% OFF Accessories



UP TO 20% OFF Gifts & Cookshop



20% OFF White Stuff (selected lines only)



UP TO 25% OFF Menswear



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## Briefing

Man 'kept in shed for 40 years'

**CRIME:** A second man has been arrested over claims that a vulnerable worker was forced to live in a 6ft shed for 40 years.

The 53-year-old suspect was arrested yesterday at a residential site north of Carlisle, Cumbria, on suspicion of modern slavery offences and is being questioned in custody.

A man, 79, was previously detained by officers from the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority in October and released under investigation.

'Extra pregnancy scans save money'

**HEALTH:** Thousands of emergency caesarean sections could be avoided in the UK every year by scanning women in late pregnancy, new research suggests.

An ultrasound at 36 weeks would detect babies in breech position, according to the study by Cambridge University found. Midwives check the position of the baby by feeling the bump, but the researchers said an extra scan could save the NHS money.

Giant's Causeway put under scrutiny

**TOURISM:** A study is due to assess the impact of more than a million visitors at one of Northern Ireland's natural wonders.

The National Trust has announced a sustainability study over increased visitor numbers to the Giant's Causeway and nearby rope bridge Carrick-a-Reed.

Last year there were more than 1.5m visitors to both attractions.

'Ban new petrol and diesel lorries'

**TRANSPORT:** Sales of new petrol and diesel lorries should be banned by 2040, Government advisers have claimed.

The National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) claimed the move is necessary to encourage the freight industry to invest in a greener fleet. It argued that the development of hydrogen and battery-powered lorries is already advanced and the vehicles are expected to be available in the early 2020s.

Old phone boxes converted for 4G

**COVERAGE:** Disused phone boxes have been transformed to provide 4G mobile connections for beachgoers in Cornwall who had long struggled with little coverage.

Visitors to Polzeath and Sennen Cove will benefit from faster mobile internet and improved call reception when they are close to Vodafone's 4G boxes. Mobile coverage remains a problem for remote and coastal areas of the UK.

Nottinghamshire and Cleveland areas," the report from Insp Breen said.

"The Harrogate District as a whole is an affluent area and many of these vehicles are owned by residents."

He said police officers have vis-

so I could establish myself as a fighter."

The court heard he is a devout Muslim who prays 15 times a day after he converted to Islam on his 20th birthday while in prison.

He is being treated at Ashworth high-security psychiatric hospital in Merseyside after being transferred from jail where he was serving a 10-and-a-half-year jail sentence, with an extended licence period of five years, imposed last May for the prison attack.

It will continue to be treated at Ashworth for an indefinite period for public protection after a jury found him guilty of attempted murder.

Ibn Abdillah, fled the scene undetected and was later spotted at RAF Northolt in west London two weeks later.

The court heard how police were informed of a male wearing full Islamic dress and heard to be chanting was seen in an accommodation area for RAF personnel.

Davies refused to give any personal details and was taken to a local police station by the Met where he was searched but nothing was found and he was allowed to leave.

The following month he threatened two men in a takeaway pizza shop in Slough, Berkshire, with a large kitchen knife and said to

them "Can I kill you now?" and "You are not Muslims".

The defendant was arrested and while on remand at HMP Bullringdon in Oxfordshire in October 2016 he attacked prison officers in two separate incidents.

In one he brandished a wooden staff with three razor blades embedded on its side and said: "Allahu Akbar, God is great."

In February 2018 the defendant, formerly of Fenwick Drive, Longsight, Manchester, but originally from Leeds, was arrested in jail over the Levenshulme stabbing.

When he was charged he replied: "I am saying it is a case of mistaken identity."

But at his trial at Manchester he pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity.

Davies accepted he stabbed Mr Poterucha but his lawyers argued he did not know what he was doing was wrong and that he believed he was stabbing an alien.

Psychiatric experts for the prosecution and defence agreed

**"I stabbed a man so I could establish myself as a fighter."**

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Davies, also known as Ahmad

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# Justice for Elsie as judges order a fresh inquest

50-year wait for answers to stabbing

**LUCY LEESON**  
CRIME CORRESPONDENT  
Email: lucy.leeson@jpimedia.co.uk  
Twitter: @LucyLeesonLive



**ELSIE FROST:** The Wakefield schoolgirl was stabbed to death in a brutal attack in 1965.

THE FAMILY of a 14-year-old murdered schoolgirl say a "piece of history" has been made after the High Court ruled there must be a fresh inquest into her killing.

No-one was ever successfully prosecuted for the murder of Elsie Frost, who was stabbed to death on her way home from her sister's house in Wakefield, on October 9, 1965.

Now, more than 50 years on Elsie's family say they are "elated" that justice will prevail, after senior judges in London found there was "fresh evidence" requiring a new inquest to be held.

Elsie's brother Colin Frost, who was just six when his sister was murdered, said: "It was very emotional moment when the judges gave out the decision."

"I just feel everything that we have done has been vindicated."

"We did not know what to expect, I had prepared myself for a 'no' decision, which contributed to the overwhelming emotions when they agreed to new inquest."

"There's a lot of work ahead of us but we can approach it in a different way now. We have achieved something which I don't think we can fully appreciate yet. It's a piece of history and at last we can move forward with confidence."

"Perhaps when we get to the end we can look back with a huge amount of pride."

The original inquest into Elsie's death took place between January 4 and 11, 1966 when the

violent rape of an 18-year-old woman in Sheffield in 1972. The crime came to light as a result of the cold case investigation into Elsie's murder by West Yorkshire Police.

In October, last year Mr Frost and Elsie's older sister Anne Cleave launched a legal drive for a new inquest into her death so the public can finally learn the truth about what happened and the family can get "closure".

His barrister Anna Morris earlier told the court that a fresh inquest was "both necessary and desirable", adding that without one "the full facts about the tragic death of Elsie Frost will never be recorded and the truth never known".

She added that, without answers about how Elsie died, "her family, her parents, her brother and her sister have never been able to properly grieve".

Lord Justice Irwin, sitting with Mr Justice Jay, ordered a new inquest but said that the court's reasons will be given at a later date.

Speaking before the hearing, Mr Frost said he thought Pickering "got away with the perfect murder back in 1965", which he said was "very, very frustrating and very upsetting".

He said the Frost family also wanted the findings of the original inquest quashed as Mr Spencer had "lived with that shadow" of wrongly being accused of Elsie's murder until his death.

Mr Frost added: "We have said all along that we are fighting for justice for the Spencer family as well."

**"We've come along way for this. We've fought and fought and fought."**

Colin Frost, brother of murdered schoolgirl Elsie Frost.



**MARCHING ON:** Les Reed, writer of Leeds anthem *Marching on Together* leading the team in song in 1972.



**FAMILY MAN:** Les Reed with Sir Tom Jones and with three luxury cars and wife and daughter Donna when his luxury cars were kept out of the garage for the sake of his daughter's guinea pig. PICTURE: GETTY IMAGES

## Sir Tom pays tribute to hit songwriter for stars and Leeds Utd

THE SINGER Sir Tom Jones was among those paying tribute yesterday to Les Reed, the songwriter behind some of the most enduring hits of the 1960s, following his death at 83.

Reed co-wrote *Delilah* and *It's Not Unusual* for Sir Tom, as well as Engelbert Humperdinck's *The Last Waltz*.

He had served his apprenticeship as a pianist in the early 1960s in the John Barry Seven, the jazz outfit founded by the York musician and composer whose name it bore. But Reed had another connection with Yorkshire, as co-writer of *Leeds! Leeds! Leeds!*, performed by the Leeds United football team and released originally as the B-side

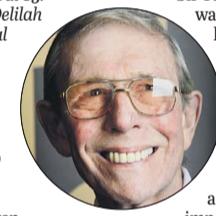
to its 1972 FA Cup final single. Better known as *Marching On Together*, a re-release in 1992 reached the top 50, despite only being available in Yorkshire.

Sir Tom said his old friend was "a lovely man, a legend in the world of songwriting".

He added: "Les was a gifted songwriter and arranger who was instrumental in penning many a hit, including two important songs for me".

The lyricist Sir Tim Rice said: "He was [the] composer of countless hits that will live on for years, decades, to come."

Singer Connie Francis, who recorded an album of his songs, said he gave a new meaning to the word 'gentleman'.



## Actress lost sense of smell in freak accident

ROSE MCGOWAN has revealed she lost her sense of smell following a freak accident.

She said a blow to the head received from a car door five years ago left her unable to test her own bath products, and oblivious to dangerous gas leaks.

The actress and activist, inset, has said she gained "super" taste buds after losing the ability to smell.



McGowan, inset, said she was tested by Harvard experts following the incident, which left her with a highly-attuned palate, but adjusting to life with one less sense.

The Scream star and writer of *Brave* said she once left the gas on at home and didn't notice the danger.

Speaking on the Off Menu podcast with Ed Gamble and James

### Briefing

#### Resort waterpark alcohol licence bid

**SCARBOROUGH:** The resort's £14m Alpamare Waterpark will face a hearing to determine if it will be granted a new alcohol licence.

The operator of the Burniston Road attraction, Alpamare UK, was issued with a winding-up petition in January over debts. Scarborough Council's licensing sub-committee meets on Friday April 26 to rule on the licence.

They were studying me because I could still taste which is normally interrelated.

"I got hit in the head with a car door in a freak valet accident in Los Angeles."

She added on the impact of her loss: "Not being able to smell, I've had to get gas monitors for my house and things like that because I accidentally left the gas on one night and didn't know because I couldn't smell it."

McGowan, who has been a prominent figure in the #MeToo movement, said she underwent tests following her accident.

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The General Pharmaceutical Council said web-based retailers will have to verify patients' identities in order to prescribe drugs.

IT WAS one of the last traditional-style filling stations on the North York Moors – but looks set to be demolished to make way for a guesthouse, tearoom and spa development, despite objections.

The proposal to bulldoze the petrol station at Honey Bee Nest, Glaisdale follows a dramatic decline in the number of fuel outlets over the last 50 years and mounting concerns over access to key services in rural areas.

In 1970, there were 37,539 pet-

rol stations across the country, but at the end of last year this figure had dwindled to 8,394.

However, the North York Moors National Park Authority's planning committee, which meets tomorrow, will be told the filling station that served Glaisdale for decades is now "surplus to requirements" and demolishing it will help add to the village's services and the local economy.

An officers' report states the filling station had operated as a

motor repair and fuel sales business, but had been closed for a number of years as there was another petrol forecourt at the top end of the village.

National park officers said the loss of community facilities should be resisted, but adds: "As the existing two garages in the village have merged it is not considered that the fuel and servicing provision has been lost from the village."

Applicants Guy Bentley Ltd

said with the Coast to Coast walk, Beggars Bridge ancient monument and the River Esk nearby there was a demand for the new facility. A spokesman for the firm said: "Many moors villages have the expected tearoom, Glaisdale does not and the station has no refreshment facilities."

Glaisdale Parish Council has opposed the plan, saying it is too large, has insufficient parking and is likely to create excessive noise and traffic.

## Stadium in hospitality suite plan

A £1m hospitality renovation at Headingley Stadium has been given a council's licensing seal of approval to become a "significant entertainment facility".

Following the ground's pavilion redevelopment, applicant Headingley North South Stand Ltd has won permission from Leeds Council to extend the bar area to the ground's lavish new £1m director's suite.

Representing the applicants, Harvey Willis said: "As part of the redevelopment the north Stand has been rebuilt and pavilion has been modernised."

A significant sum has been spent on this facility, more than a £1m. It is a significant entertainment facility."

He explained that bar areas have been taken out of the ground floor. The first floor bar areas would remain the same, as would the second floor with an added private dining area for 30 people. The bar for the new third floor director's suite has also been moved.

However, part of the application, to add entertainment similar to live music, recorded music or dance on Sundays, was withdrawn.

Some representations to the council were made by local residents who were concerned about noise it would bring to the area.

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## Manager who used council credit card to pay for grandson's party avoids jail

A FORMER manager who used a council credit card to pay for her grandson's christening party as well as other treats has avoided an immediate prison sentence.

Andrea Breen, 48, who worked for Calderdale Council for 15 years, should have used the card for legitimate expenses in her

role as a licensing and registrations manager, but instead made purchases including £1,100 on the christening party.

Bradford Crown Court heard that Breen, of Ashfield Drive, Ovenden, Halifax, was partly motivated by a revenge because of the way she felt she had been treated

over a complaint at work. Prosecutor Heather Gilmore said Breen used the credit card mainly between late 2016 and January 2018 to pay for items including tickets to a London theatre show, swimming lessons for her grandson and other gifts.

Breen admitted stealing from

her employer and Miss Gilmore confirmed that the total sum was £9,829.51.

The court heard that Breen was in line for a council pension of £120,000. Recorder Thomas Moran made a confiscation order under the Proceeds of Crime Act which means that all the stolen money plus just over £300 in interest will be seized from her pension.

A psychological report indicated that Breen had been suffering from an adjustment disorder at the time of the offending due to events at work and family issues. The judge suspended her

six-month jail term for a year and ordered Breen to do 80 hours of unpaid work. She was also given a 20-day rehabilitation activity requirement and £1,200 costs.

Recorder Moran said Breen had admitted the offending at her police interview and the only issue was the precise amount of

money she had stolen. The judge heard that Breen had got another job at a restaurant and shown clear remorse for her offending.

Barrister Joanne Shepherd, for Breen, said her client was at a loss to explain her behaviour and was thoroughly ashamed of herself and genuinely remorseful.

# Arts and culture 'are worth £10.8bn to economy'

### Creative sector 'is thriving'

SIR NICHOLAS Serota, the chairman of Arts Council England, claimed arts and culture is a "thriving industry" which is delivering "huge benefits" for the economy.

He added: "Public investment in the arts is fuelling local regeneration across the country, pushing skills and talent to the commercial sector, and driving the world-class reputation of our creative industries."

Despite pressures, the productivity of arts and culture workers is higher than the national average, according to the report.

Turnover from the arts and culture sector has risen every year from 2009 to 2016, from £11bn to almost £17bn.

YORKSHIRE'S ARTS leaders have hailed the social and economic benefits of cultural attractions in the region after a new report found the sector is worth £10.8bn to the UK's economy – more than agriculture.

But Arts Council England, who produced the report, has warned despite supporting 360,000 jobs and contributing £2.8bn in tax to the Government, the sector is being battered by public funding cuts.

In total, 75 per cent of arts organisations surveyed have suffered funding cuts, with more than half of these saying they could not compensate for the loss, adding pressure to staff, with frozen wages and payroll reductions. The arts and culture industry is "increasingly becoming reliant" on volunteers as a result.

Book publishing is the largest contributor, accounting for around a third of turnover. Performing arts accounts for a third of employment in the sector.

Last month Yorkshire Sculpture Park (YSP) saw the opening of its new £3.6m Weston visitor centre, of which, £1.7m came from Arts Council England.

YSP's director of programme, Clare Lilley, said each year the West Bretton park contributed more than £10m to the regional economy, representing "fantastic value for money".

She said: "The cultural sector hugely supports quality of life, wellbeing, family and community cohesion and, as we see in this report, the economy. Cultural destinations are successful contributors to regeneration, driving wider infrastructure investment with significant impact on tourism, local employment, education and aspiration."

Arts Council England has contributed £750,000 to this summer's Yorkshire Sculpture Inter-



## Artist's garden image captures the magic of Yorkshire summer evening



**CELEBRATION:** Mackenzie Thorpe's painting Under The Moon and Stars has been chosen to provide the backdrop to the Welcome to Yorkshire garden at Chelsea Flower Show. MAIN PICTURE: GARY LONGBOTTOM

THE MIDDLESBROUGH artist Mackenzie Thorpe, whose work is noted for capturing Yorkshire's countryside as well as its early industrial landscape, has been chosen to provide the backdrop to the Welcome to Yorkshire garden at this summer's Chelsea Flower Show.

He has created an image for the event of an adult and child under a moonlit sky, in a field of wildflowers beside a canal, looking out to the hills rising in the distance.

The Yorkshire garden, the tourism authority's 10th at Chelsea, is being created in partnership with the Canal and River Trust and will incorporate a working canal with genuine lock gates from Huddersfield, a towpath and lock keeper's lodge.

Welcome To Yorkshire said it would stand as a celebration of

"We're so lucky to have such

amazing countryside as a natural resource we can all enjoy. The canal and locks are important iconic symbols of the county's industrial heritage that helped to shape its landscape," he said.

The garden is being designed by the horticulturist Mark Gregory, who worked on last year's Yorkshire garden, the most successful to date at Chelsea. It won a Gold Medal, the People's Choice Award and the prize for best construction.

Mr Gregory said: "I really love Mackenzie's take on this year's canal scene. He's captured the elevation, hills and drama of Yorkshire's waterways beautifully.

"I particularly love the night time setting and shadow play with the flowers in the foreground."

Peter Dodd, Welcome to Yorkshire's commercial director, said: "The painting has a really magical feel and I'm sure when people see it they will be inspired to visit Yorkshire and experience its unique qualities at first hand."

### Orange parade to be re-routed

**GLASGOW:** An Orange march which was to pass a church where a Catholic priest was spat on has been rerouted after police warned of potential for disorder.

The original route for the Apprentice Boys of Derry (Bridgefoot) Easter Sunday parade would have passed St Alphonsus Church, Glasgow, where Father Thomas White was targeted as an Orange walk went by on July 7 last year.

A man was jailed in February for 10 months spitting at the priest.

### Stricken kittens rescued with net

**CWMBRAN:** Four stricken kittens have been rescued from a small gap between a wall and a conservatory with a child's fishing net.

The two ginger and two black-and-white kittens had been stuck in Llanyrafon, Cwmbran, for at least 24 hours. Residents called Cats Protection's Gwent Branch for help after spotting the trapped felines.

Glynis Davies, co-ordinator of Cats Protection's Gwent Branch, said: "We decided the only way we could rescue the kittens was to fish them out."

## Gallery to house Sir Elton's photo collection

HIS PENCHANT for the outlandish pop art which defined his appearance in the 1970s made him something of an *enfant terrible*, but Sir Elton John's acceptance into the bosom of the British establishment was sealed yesterday when the Victoria & Albert Museum renamed one of its galleries in his honour.

Sir Elton and his husband, David Furnish, made what the V&A called a "significant" donation towards its new photography centre, which opened in October.

The musician's private photo collection will now go on display there as part of a long-term collaboration with the museum to improve public access to the art.

The collaboration will see highlights from the V&A's collection of more than 800,000 photographs – including many it acquired from the National Media Museum in Bradford in 2016 – alongside pictures from Sir Elton, who has been curating since 1991 and whose library includes images by Man Ray, Dorothea Lange,

Andre Kertesz and Edward Steichen.

He said the Photography Centre would "not only elevate photography but it will help foster new artists, patrons and collectors, like myself".

Tristram Hunt, director of the V&A, said there were "huge synergies" between the collections.

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# Features & Comment

## THE GREAT CATHEDRAL THAT ROSE FROM THE ASHES

**Thirty-five years ago, York Minster was ravaged by fire, and its determination to rebuild has striking parallels with the Notre-Dame aftermath. Andrew Vine reports.**

IT WAS a moment when the world joined Yorkshire in horrified disbelief as flames leapt from the roof of York Minster.

Just as a global audience grieved for Notre-Dame, so it mourned the Minster as it burned in the early hours of July 9 1984, the flames visible for miles as they roared hundreds of feet into the air, sending a pall of smoke across the city.

Yorkshire's most iconic building, symbol of the county, its steadfastness and faith since the 13th century was lit up against the sky by the inferno raging in its South Transept as 150 firefighters battled to save it.

At daybreak, when they had doused the flames but smoke still wreathed the ruined transept, mingling with steam rising from charred timbers saturated by water, those entering looked up to see clear blue sky where the roof had been.

Nowhere in the world will have quite the same understanding of how the people of Paris are feeling than York. Just as Parisians look on Notre-Dame and wonder how it can be restored, so the people of York asked themselves the same questions.

But as it was for York, so it will be for Paris – the great cathedral that is more than a landmark or a place of worship, but the embodiment of a city's heart and soul, will rise again from the ashes of fire.

It was shortly after 2am when the Minster fire started, undetected in roof spaces as it took hold. Once the alarms sounded, clergy living nearby rushed in to save its treasures as the building began to fill with smoke.

They were led by the Dean of York, Dr Ronald Jasper, who saw flames sweeping along the transept roof. Police helped as they snatched up crosses, candlesticks and cloths from the high altar before firefighters ordered everyone out because it was becoming so dangerous.

Scalding raindrops of molten lead were cascading from the roof, and debris beginning to fall. Firefighters struggled to contain the blaze, even with huge volumes of water pumped from the Ouse. To bring it under control, they used hoses to force the burning roof to fall at about 4am, and once it was down could finally extinguish the flames.

At 5.05am, the fire crews reported that they had the blaze under control, but would spend a further 24 hours damping down.

There had been devastating fires at the Minster in 1753, 1829 and 1840 but this blaze had an enormous international impact. The ruined, blackened South Transept, gaping open to the sky, was on front pages around the world, as Notre Dame would be.

The 16th century stained glass of the Rose Window had been fragmented into 40,000 pieces by the intense heat, but had, miraculously, stayed in place thanks to its restored leading completed 12 years previously.

Once it was safe to enter the building, the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, was one of the first inside. His words were measured: "We

must be grateful it is not worse, but it is certainly terrible."

A few days later, when the Archbishop of Canterbury, Robert Runcie, visited, his message was one of determination as he stood amongst the wreckage: "It will rise again."

As with Notre-Dame, the aftermath was characterised by shock. York had a subdued atmosphere as it sank in how close the Minster had come to destruction.

And as investigators began to sift through the debris to establish the cause of the fire, one startling theory began doing the rounds – divine intervention was responsible.

This came from church traditionalists who had been furious at the consecration of David Jenkins as Bishop of Durham in the Minster three days before the fire. Dr Jenkins was a controversial figure who had denied the Virgin Birth and questioned the Resurrection. Protestors had gathered outside his consecration and twice interrupted the service.

Among those evicted from the service was the Rev John Mowll, from Congleton, in Cheshire, who in the aftermath of the fire said: "I would not rule out the possibility of divine intervention. The God I believe in is a supernatural God and He does intervene in human affairs from time to time."

**"Disasters such as this have a huge impact on the wider community"**

Dr Kate Giles, from the University of York's Department of Archaeology.

North Yorkshire Fire Brigade's investigation confined itself to more earthly matters. The fire had started during a spell of hot, cloudless weather and a lightning strike was the most likely cause. Badly-placed smoke detectors had allowed flames to take hold and spread before alarms went off.

A priority was raising £350,000 to install modern fire-protection systems. Then attention turned to restoring the Minster, using the methods and materials of its medieval builders.

Just as Paris finds now, York found itself the focus of immense goodwill and a resolve to do whatever was necessary to restore and rebuild the Minster.

Country estates across Yorkshire donated venerable oak trees to form the mighty trusses that would support the roof, and 62 new bosses were carved with figures and scenes. The Rose Window would be repaired and restored.

It took four years and £2.25m, which included hundreds of private donations ranging from whatever few pounds people could afford to substantial contributions, for the South Transept to be reborn. The Minster was re-dedicated in a service attended by the Queen in November 1988.

The parallels between the determination to rebuild York Minster and Notre-Dame are striking, and say



**ANGUISH:** Clockwise from the top: York Minster on fire in July 1984; the damage can clearly be seen; a shocked Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, inspects the damage; aftermath of the blaze. (YPN/PA/Press Agency Yorkshire Ltd.)

### A great Gothic masterpiece

YORK MINSTER is one of the finest medieval buildings in Europe. It is also known as St Peter's and its full name is the Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of St Peter in York.

The first Christian church on the site has been dated to 627 and the first Archbishop of York was recognised by the Pope in 732.

A stone Saxon church survived Viking invasion in 866 but was ransacked by William the Conqueror's forces in 1069.

The present Gothic-style church was built over 250 years, between 1220 and 1472.

As the natural centre of the Church in the North, the Minster has often played an important role in great national affairs - not least during the turbulent years of the Reformation and the Civil War.

much about how treasured these iconic cathedrals are, even by those who might never attend a service within their walls.

And how different that spirit can be from the reaction to fires at other historic buildings is equally striking.

Eight years after the Minster fire, in 1992, Windsor Castle was ravaged by fire which tore through St George's Hall, the State Apartments and the Brunswick Tower, as royal staff carried priceless artworks to safety and the Queen looked on as firefighters tried to contain it.

Restoration costs of £36.5m were the subject of political and public argument over who should pay, with a body of opinion holding that the Queen should foot the bill. To defuse the row, £8-a-head tours of Buckingham Palace were introduced to raise money.

No such reservations blighted the Minster's restoration, for like Notre-Dame, it holds a special place in people's hearts. Dr Kate Giles, from the University of York's Department of Archaeology, said: "Disasters such as this have a huge impact not only on those who work and worship in a church, but also the wider community for whom the building is a symbol of identity and something far harder to capture, linking people to a deep sense of the past and to a sense of spirituality, whether they are religious or not."

"We saw...how local residents, visitors and the international community shared a sense of anguish at the fate of this internationally-significant Gothic building."

And York has more to offer Notre-Dame than just the example of how a great cathedral can rise again, added Dr Giles. "But cathedrals have a millennium of expertise behind them, and Notre-Dame will be able to draw on colleagues from across the world, including the University of York's Art History and Archaeology departments and York Minster's Glaziers' Trust and Stonemasons, to assist with its rebuilding and restoration."

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Twitter: [@yorkshirepost](https://twitter.com/yorkshirepost)

## Keeping it in the family to give city pub new lease of life

"THE ROAD to Terminus was a long one and somewhere along the line our beer ran out," says Baz Phillips, who together with brother Graeme founded The Meanwood Brewery in Leeds and the recently opened Terminus pub.

He is alluding to the fact that, owing to putting in a number of back-to-back 90-hour weeks, both in the run-up to the launch of Terminus in November and immediately after it opened, they were unable to keep up production of their ales.

Logistical issues have now been resolved and last Saturday, the most elusive bar in the Leeds suburb – it's not visible from the main road and sits directly behind The Hungry Bear at the bottom of Stonegate Road – reopened with 10 keg beers, four cask ales and two sparkling wines.

Baz, 35, who founded the brewery with Graeme, 37, in December 2016, said: "We did just about everything in

Brewers Baz and Graeme Phillips worked so hard on their new pub in Leeds, they ran out of beer. Now they're back with a much larger range, writes Neil Hudson.

the building, it took us months and months to get the brewery and the bar into the position we wanted it.

"When we arrived, the whole building was ramshackle, it had been derelict for about 10 years. So for several months we were just basically grafting."

The former Victorian wash house was given a new lease of life by the brothers, while they employed a carpenter to make better use of a

sloping approach to create a beer garden. However, their dedication to the building meant they didn't have enough time to focus on brewing.

Father-of-one Baz explains: "We had some beer from our old brewery and we opened with quite a lot of that but sold out within the first few weeks."

"When we first opened, it was just us manning the bar, we were doing 90-hour weeks."

"When we ran out, we had to buy beer in from small indie breweries and kept the bar going that way. Now we have a very strong team running the bar."

Staffing issues resolved, beer stocks replenished, they are now in a much more stable position to move forward with the business.

They have even forged a closer link with the neighbouring The Hungry Bear, forming a partnership in which 'The Bear' will supply Sunday dinners

to guests – not a bad prospect given their neighbour's already formidable reputation when it comes to food – but throw in the fact Terminus's beer garden is big enough to hold 40 and, if the weather's nice, this could quickly become one of Meanwood's most sought-after Sunday sanctuaries.

Baz says: "We have been blown away by how successful we have seen."

"We've been surprised by the speed with which the word got out. We have just installed lights over the side street which comes off the main road, so it makes us a lot more visible from there."

"Our beer garden backs onto The Hungry Bear and we have seating for about 40 people."

However, aside from "taking back the taps" with their own range of cask and keg ales, they have also be launched two sparkling wines, 'Respect Your Elder, Flower' and 'Bazberry'

'Beret' (both 11 per centers and aimed squarely at the Prosecco market).

"We had food and live music on the night," says Baz and we're excited to have launched our new sparkling wines."

He adds: "We were home brewers to start with and just got deep into it, we always wanted to open a small bar in Meanwood."

"It's where we live, we love the place."

"Trying to run the brewery and helping guys manage this place, it became too much. Hopefully, the 90 hour weeks are a thing of the past, although we're not far off it at the moment. We are both just happy with the way things are going. We love this area, this is why we wanted to be here, it's getting better all the time and hopefully we have contributed to that."

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**BROTHERS IN ARMS:** Baz and Graeme Phillips run their own brewery and pub in Leeds.



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## COMMENT

## Notre-Dame will rise again

## York Minster's symbol of hope

THE SYMBOLISM was striking as photographs emerged of the giant cross still in place on the altar of the iconic Notre-Dame cathedral hours after a devastating blaze left this historic building in ruins.

On the eve of Easter and spiritual events to mark Christ's resurrection, its very survival has been likened to a miracle and become a symbol of hope for a shattered France – and all those who cherish world heritage sites – as thoughts turn to the restoration of this 850-year-old cathedral.

Now bereft of the historic medieval timbers that lined the Notre-Dame's roof, known as la foret, and which were the backdrop to so much history and trauma through the ages, the French should draw great comfort from the outpouring of compassion around the world as flames engulfed a place of worship visited by 12 million people a year.

And the fact that the foundations of the cathedral were unyielding, and withstood such a ferocious

inferno, is testament to the remarkable craftsmanship which existed nine centuries ago, provides further hope that the Paris skyline will not be altered irrevocably.

Thanks to the brilliance of French firefighters, and all those staff who risked their lives to retrieve priceless antiquities, the Notre-Dame can – and will – rise from the ashes while retaining much of its allure.

This reassurance can be offered following the painstaking restoration of York Minster following its lightning strike in 1984, and the more recent conservation of its landmark Great East Window, as well as the work that took place at Windsor Castle after a fire in 1992.

Both were restored to an exemplary standard by the skills of those craftspeople whose expertise will be invaluable to the Parisian authorities in the weeks, months and years to come. And if this entente helps Anglo-French relations that have been made fraught by Brexit, so much the better.

## Post Bank credit

## Labour's key plan for high streets

EVEN THOUGH Rebecca Long Bailey was plucked from relative obscurity when she joined Jeremy Corbyn's top team as Shadow Business Secretary, she has become one of the more serious political figures of this Parliament.

Entrusted by her leader to take part in cross-party talks between Labour and the Government over Brexit, the Shadow Cabinet member has also been at the forefront of the debate over the future of high streets.

An issue which continues to be highlighted by *The Yorkshire Post*, Ms Long Bailey has actually had the foresight to come up with a policy plan of her own which extends beyond the daily and routine criticism of Government ministers.

Outlined in today's newspaper, Ms Long Bailey proposes the creation of a Post Bank which would have 349 branches in Yorkshire alone and effectively give

the Post Office the financial freedom to offer a greater range of banking services than at present.

She believes it will offer a lifeline to those communities which do depend on the physical existence of post offices and banks to access money and so on. As she writes: "Some people say online banking can fill their place, but 3.8 million UK households do not have internet at home and 12 million people live in rural or remote areas with poor internet access."

Yet, while opponents will argue that Labour has no place running financial services, Ms Long Bailey's plan should be used now as the starting point for an immediate cross-party debate about the future of town centres. It would also be the responsible course of action. For, if not, the rate of closures will only accelerate and cause even more damage to high streets.

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## Arts awareness

## National Lottery's game-changer

THE ECONOMIC impact of wider investment in arts and culture should be set in the context of John Major's decision 25 years ago to press ahead with the National Lottery in the face of considerable opposition.

As well as providing support for cultural projects, in addition to the preservation of national heritage and greater investment in sport, its advent has certainly helped to renew public interest in culture and its wider value to local communities.

And the legacy, a quarter

of a century later, is arts now being integral to the regeneration of towns and cities from the presence of globally-acclaimed attractions, like The Hepworth Wakefield, to Hull's year-long City of Culture celebrations.

These examples – and many more – would have been unthinkable without the impetus generated by the National Lottery. And Yorkshire would be all the poorer, both economically and socially, without a cultural offering which is now the envy of the world.

## Brexit is too important to concede to 'grandad knows best'

From: ME Wright, Harrogate.

LIKE Tom Richmond, I watched Sir Bill Cash's finger-jabbing declamation on Oliver Cromwell in wonderment: half-hoping that he might explode. Fortunately, Cromwell's head ended up on the block (*The Yorkshire Post*, April 13).

Thanks to Hilary Benn for respecting the gravity of the situation and acting calmly but firmly. If he were in a different Labour Party place, might we have an Opposition worthy of a "United States of Europe".

Is it really so strange that our children and grandchildren see themselves as part of a changing EU evolving on those lines? It

On April 11, Jayne Dowle gave

us a timely reminder that Brexit is far more than conceding that "grandad knows best" to a broad spectrum of Cash-style views expressed in this and other columns.

In 2016, David Cameron chose to gamble with the nation's long-term future and that of his party, in his abject failure to get a grip on his right wing. Many Brexiteers recoil in horror at the prospect of a "United States of Europe".

Is it really so strange that our children and grandchildren see themselves as part of a changing EU evolving on those lines? It

sounds most tempting when set against being even further subsumed and dominated by the United States of America which, for millions, is far from being the heaven on Earth which Hollywood and TV would have us believe.

From: Thomas Jefferson, Batty Lane, Howden, Goole.

WHAT a disappointing article by Tom Richmond. Instead of dealing with the substance of the issue of Parliament seizing control of Brexit from the Government, thereby reducing

the Prime Minister to the status of messenger, he highlights the trite put-down by Labour MP Hilary Benn of Tory MP Sir Bill Cash, who was addressing the serious constitutional consequences of such actions. Describing the latter as a bally and dinosaur is not helpful.

Then we have the mischievous accusation that the Leavers had no credible plan for Brexit. The obvious plan, which would have respected the red lines of all parties and was offered more than once by the EU, was for a Canada-style free trade agreement, which

could have been accompanied by tariff-free trade during negotiations, thereby avoiding a cliff-edge departure. The Northern Irish border issue is soluble with the "sincere co-operation" we are entitled to expect under the treaties, but which has been absent because the matter has been "weaponised" in an attempt to make Brexit seem impossible.

A new Tory leader could raise us from the torpor of the current debacle and get this matter resolved, as described, in a way that no reasonable democrat could object to.

## Feedback

Comments on Yorkshire Post stories posted on our website, Twitter and Facebook.

## Blaze devastates Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris

Andrew Ellis. Truly awful evening, so sad. 850 years and stood through so much. Now gone. I had hoped it would be like the York Minster fire but this is far worse.

Sally Cakebread. Hope the British Government will learn from this. All buildings over 800 years old need special protection. Plus HS2 must be scrapped now due to the destruction that it would do to our heritage.

Yvonne Pickersgill. So sad, all that history.

Kathy Townsend. History just disappearing.

Caroline Howarth. Devastating. Hope they can save as much as possible.

Clare Marie. Heartbreaking – such a beautiful iconic building.

Elizabeth Smith. So, so devastating.

Margaret Hibbett. This is so devastating.

Linda Stuchbury. Oh so devastating and tragic.

Ann Ward. So awful to watch. Devastated.

Jo Dobie. Does anyone know how it started?

Jonathan Davies. Such a beautiful building in a city I love.

Jan Barrell. Tragic.

Christina Rendle. So very beautiful – hope it can be rebuilt.

Maxine Emery. Terrible.

Barbara Robertshaw. What a tragedy.

Sheila Ognissanti. Makes me think of York Minster.

Tim Beaumont. So sad – such a wonderful building.

Janet McDonald. A stunning cathedral devastated by fire.

Linda Laurence. That is just awful, how sad.

Mollie Walker. So, so sad. Such a humbling experience visiting this beautiful building.

Margaret Eyre. What a calamity. On a par with Windsor Castle.

Trish Hickey. A sad day for France and its historic virtues.

Stewart Potter. So sad – an absolutely magnificent cathedral.

What do you think? Let us know:

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## Horace &amp; Doris



"WHAT'S THE IDEA?  
I'VE ALREADY FROSTED A CHICKEN!"

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: Nigel Davies, London.

I REFER to the thought-provoking piece by Jayne Dowle on HS2 and the recent commentary from Liz Truss, Chief Secretary to the Treasury (*The Yorkshire Post*, April 15).

Most certainly, I wholeheartedly agree with Jayne Dowle that it is vital that

Northern Powerhouse Rail ("NPR") is supported in full, together with hugely improved regional infrastructure of all types of transport.

However I fear that the approach of Ms Truss will lead to further division in the UK, as it is

actually a continuation of a policy continuing to plough investment into London and the South East, which is hardly showing any apparent benefit.

That provision still exists but is rarely used today. A further safeguard is that the marked register, showing who voted – but not, of course, how they voted – is available for a time after the election so that it can be checked as to whether any deceased or absent electors actually voted.

Finally, if a registered elector goes to the polling station and

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LEADERSHIP MATERIAL: Would former Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson make a better successor to Prime Minister Theresa May?

PICTURE: PA WIRE

**“ ”**

*I am the first to admit that no one knows who will make a good Prime Minister until they get the job. But looking at the seemingly endless list of candidates to replace Mrs May fills me with gloom.*


**Rebecca Long Bailey**

Rebecca Long Bailey is a Labour MP and the Shadow Business Secretary.

villages of Yorkshire have been hit especially hard.

That is why Labour is proposing a new way to bank – a publicly-owned banking system that will tackle financial exclusion, provide small businesses with the finance they need, secure the future of the Post Office and ensure these anchors of the high street are here to stay.

Labour's Post Bank will be run through the post office network.

Turning post offices into banks on our high streets will ensure every community has easy access to face-to-face, trusted and affordable banking.

We will create 349 Post Bank branches in Yorkshire, and 10 times that number around the country, giving the Post Bank the largest network of all UK banks.

It will offer banking services to individuals and relationship banking with small businesses.

Ten years on and I'm afraid to say not much has changed.

The UK economy is still over-reliant on London, on financial services and the banking system. It still does not work in the interests of people and ordinary businesses.

One and a half million adults do not have a bank account in the UK and those that do are finding it harder and harder to access banking services.

Nowhere is that more shockingly clear than on the high street.

The UK has lost nearly two-thirds of its bank and building society branches over the past 30 years.

For nearly a fifth of us now, it's a full two miles from home to our nearest branch.

In Yorkshire alone, almost 300 bank branches have closed in just over three years.

as one of the faces of our regional development banks.

As well as the Post Bank, Labour will create a £250bn National Investment Bank that will lend to small businesses and make sure overdue infrastructure upgrades actually happen.

A network of Regional Development Banks around the country will fund and invest in small and medium-sized businesses, they will make sure the infrastructure we all rely on gets built and they will support innovation so our economy gets upgraded and the industries of the future benefit our children.

Labour is going to fundamentally reform the UK's banking system, ensuring everyone can access to finance and supporting our economy to grow in a sustainable way.

Banks don't have a great reputation, but we rightly trust and cherish our post offices.

Labour's Post Bank will save our languishing post offices, and make sure that high street banking is for the many, not the few.

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## Publicly-owned banking system is way forward

IMAGINE IF banks worked for you. Imagine if your local bank was tasked with making sure everyone had access to banking services and that small businesses got investment.

Imagine if that local bank was located right on your high street because your local post office was now also a branch of the country's biggest and most helpful banking chain: the Post Bank.

Of course, that's not – yet – how things are. Instead, the banks are understandably distrusted. They crashed in 2008 because they weren't regulated properly, plunging the country into recession and causing hardship to hundreds of thousands of people in the UK.

Labour avoided a global economic catastrophe by preventing a further crash but the incoming Conservative-led coalition refused to fix the structural issues in our economy, which caused the damage in the first place. Instead they slashed public services.

Ten years on and I'm afraid to say not much has changed.

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**TV GUIDE:** Seven-day television and radio listings – Every Saturday in The Yorkshire Post Magazine

# May's successor will need clear vision and iron will


**Bernard Ingham**

EVERY WEDNESDAY

SHE'S POLITICALLY dead, they say, but she won't lie down. Good for Theresa May. Her epic stance against widespread stupidity and irresponsibility at home and in Europe is demonstrating, among other things, that British politics has an endless supply of masochists.

They are falling over themselves to succeed her. But who in their right mind would want to, given the party's maltreatment of Margaret Thatcher and John Major, and then ridding itself in quick succession rid itself of William Hague, Iain Duncan Smith and Michael Howard?

Let me first examine the task before a new leader. It is said that he or she must be a Leaver but how on earth anyone – Leaver or Remainer – is going to unite the Conservatives is a mystery, whatever Boris Johnson says about a burst of unity and dynamism after Brexit.

The irresponsibility of MPs is breathtaking with Britain's democracy menaced by a Marxist mob, rampant immigration, Islamic terrorism, Europe in turmoil, America with a volatile president, Vladimir Putin coveting Eastern Europe and dedicated to the destabilisation of the West and China on the unsettling rise.

We need a Moses to lead the UK, still intact in the face of Scottish, Welsh and Irish nationalism, out of the EU to the promised land and a Solomon with the wisdom to lay down what the Tories

stand for in the 21st century. Their problem is not just a botched Brexit but what they actually believe in.

They may always have been a broad church – witness the hostility of some to Mrs Thatcher's reforms – but their appeal has generally been a belief in the British people through working with the grain of human nature and conserving the best, based on financial prudence at home, limited government and the effective control of the wilder shores of capitalism.

The present lot are not prudent enough, given that Gordon Brown's monumental £153bn budget deficit is still not eradicated after nine years and their approach to enterprise and assorted services blurred, partly by too much obeisance to the often idiotic forces of political correctness.

To my certain knowledge, we have known for more than 30 years that more money does not solve the NHS's problem of coping with an ageing and rising population, driven substantially by uncontrolled immigration, and the exponential development of treatments. Yet that is where Chancellor Philip Hammond proposes to chuck the so-called Brexit bonus.

Before a penny of that is handed over, a sensible government would demand greater efficiency in the use of resources and see it is delivered. The same goes for local government which has been overspending for decades, not least on councillors and executives, while blaming central government for a lack of resources.

The welfare system, it seems, is expected to ease the life and conscience of the elderly's families in this era of record prosperity – repeat prosperity, not austerity – but is not working well for the old folk. It lacks the smack of firm government.

Education is frankly a liability because it is not generally turning out robust, rounded and well-educated youngsters ready to earn their living. And higher education has been taken over by the Left and students' unions by pathetic snowflakes.

We need far more parental responsibility within a much tougher law and order system if we are to

tame the criminal classes who have multiplied with the general lack of societal discipline linked with advancing technology.

As for national security, we have an understaffed military to go with the neglect of domestic affairs latterly because of Brexit.

And anyone concerned about national security knows that we have not had an energy policy worthy of the name for 30 years. All this ignorant banning of gas in new houses – and loose talk about electric cars – utterly ignores where the power is coming from.

In short, we are in a hell of a mess, with no remotely acceptable alternative to the Tories in Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn who could only be relied upon to ensure national disaster.

I am the first to admit that no one knows who will make a good Prime Minister until they get the job. But looking at the seemingly endless list of candidates to replace Mrs May fills me with gloom. Is there anyone capable of facing up to the need to engineer a new, secure, prosperous Britain that works?

He or she needs clarity of vision and an iron will to succeed against the odds. Let me know if you can identify a combination of Moses and Solomon. I need cheering up.

# Deposits can help tackle litter mountain


**Maddy Haughton-Boakes**

Maddy Haughton-Boakes is a Litter Campaigner at the Campaign to Protect Rural England.

YOU ONLY have to take one look at our country lanes and hedgerows, parks and town centres to know that littered bottles and cans are a huge problem. Not only are they unsightly, wasteful and a threat to wildlife, but many of them are washed into our streams, rivers and waterways, and eventually our oceans, where the damage they cause is now well-documented.

Last year, in just two hours, CPRE's Green Clean collected over 2,150 littered bottles and cans in a small part of central Sheffield alone – just a snapshot of a pollution crisis that we saw repeated across the country.

A well-designed deposit return system will go a long way to preventing this harmful blight on our natural world by introducing a small, but effective, financial incentive for people to return the containers for recycling. Surely that's something everyone can get behind?

Unfortunately, it's not that simple. Powerful vested interests in the packaging, waste management and drinks industries don't want to see a threat to their profits, or take financial responsibility for the waste they create.

And it's clear why. The onus for cleaning up our green spaces, towns, cities and countryside often falls on cash-strapped local councils with little

money to spare for essential services, let alone effective waste and recycling systems.

In contrast, drinks and packaging companies have enjoyed a free ride.

Last year, the packaging industry paid only £73m towards the clean-up costs of dealing with its products, while taxpayers were left to foot the remaining 93 per cent of the £1bn bill.

Vested interests from the packaging, retail and drinks industries lobbied ferociously to prevent the burden for dealing with litter from shifting from the public 'to those who caused it – those who made, sold and bought the products'. Once again we see companies putting

drinks container production continues to rise, whilst our recycling rates are static or declining. Drinks companies try to look like their doing they're bit by printing '100 per cent recyclable' on their cans or bottles, but

their profits before pollution. To secure victory, industry promised 'voluntary action' to deal with the waste it was generating. Almost 40 years on, the scale of our litter crisis is clear evidence that they have not kept their promise.

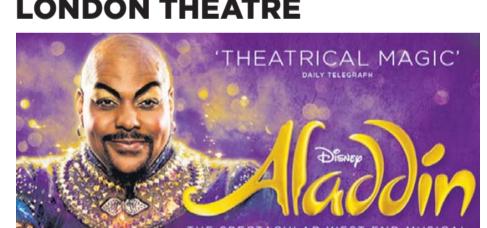
The Government has a huge opportunity to learn from the mistakes of the past and introduce an effective deposit return system that will reduce litter, increase recycling and shift the financial burden of dealing with our waste to those who created it in the first place.

We're urging Environment Secretary, Michael Gove, to introduce a scheme that collects and accepts all bottles, cans and cartons of all sizes, creating a system that will boost our recycling industry, create jobs and be paid for by producers.

Litter is not just an environmental problem. It evokes so many emotions – from anger to despair – and creates real barriers between people and places, preventing us from enjoying and connecting with our beautiful countryside.

By delivering the best possible deposit system, this connection can be restored, and decades of allowing producers to escape the costs of their products can be reversed.

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## ENTERTAINMENT CHOICE

## Chimerica

CHANNEL 4, 9PM  
Powerful four-part drama series about an American photojournalist accused of doctoring one of his award-winning photographs. In the first episode, photojournalist Lee Berger's coverage of the conflict in Syria makes the front page, but crisis hits his career when a journalist exposes to the world that the image has been digitally manipulated. Alessandro Nivola, Daphne Cheung, Ty Simpkins, Tao Deng and Philip Arditti.



Picture perfect: Alessandro Nivola stars in the new drama series.

## BBC1

FV 1, SKY 101, VIRGIN 101

**6.00 Breakfast.** (HD) (S)  
**9.15 Animal Park Easter Special.** (HD) (R) (S) 10.00  
**Homes Under the Hammer.** (HD) (R) (S) 11.00  
**The Sheriffs Are Coming.** (HD) (R) S 11.45  
**Close Calls: On Camera.** (HD) (S) 12.15  
**Bargain Hunt.** (HD) (R) S 1.00  
**BBC News.** (HD) (S) 1.30  
**Look North.** (S) 1.45  
**Doctors.** (HD) (S) 2.15  
**Curiosity.** (HD) (S) 3.00  
**Escape to the Country.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**3.45 Home Is Where the Art Is.** (HD) (S) 4.30  
**The Repair Shop.** (HD) (S) 5.15  
**Poinkless.** (HD) (S)

## BBC2

FV 2, SKY 102, VIRGIN 102

**6.30 The Repair Shop.** (HD) (R) (S) 7.15  
**Home Is Where the Art Is.** (HD) (R) (S) 9.25  
**The 8.00 Sign Zone: Mary Berry's Quick Cooking.** (R) (S) 8.30  
**Sign Zone: Gardeners' World.** (R) (S) 9.00  
**BBC News at 9.** (HD) (S) 10.00  
**Victoria Derbyshire.** (HD) (S) 11.00  
**BBC Newroom Live.** (HD) (S) 1.00  
**The Boss.** Quiz, hosted by Susan Calman. (HD) (R) (S) 1.45  
**Back in Time for Dinner.** (Rinder) (HD) (S) 3.00  
**Tenable.** (HD) (R) (S) 3.59  
**ITV Yorkshire Weather.** (S) 4.00  
**Tipping Point.** (HD) (S) 5.00  
**Eggheads.** (HD) (R) (S) 5.15  
**Flog It!** (HD) (R) (S)

## ITV

FV 3, SKY 103, VIRGIN 103

**6.00 Good Morning Britain.** (HD) (S) 8.30  
**Lorraine.** (HD) (S) 9.25  
**The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) (S) 10.30  
**This Morning.** (HD) (S) 12.30  
**Loose Women.** Topical debate from a female perspective. (HD) (S) 1.30  
**ITV Lunchtime News;** Weather. (HD) (S) 1.55  
**News Calendar;** Weather. (HD) (S) 2.00  
**Judge Judy.** (R) (S) 2.10  
**Countdown.** (HD) (S) 3.00  
**A Place in the Sun.** (HD) (R) (S) 4.00  
**New Life in the Sun.** (HD) (S) 5.00  
**Four in a Bed.** (HD) (S) 5.30  
**Extreme Cake Makers.** (HD) (S) 5.50  
**The Chase.** (HD) (S)

## CH4

FV 4, SKY 104, VIRGIN 104

**6.25 Cheers.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**7.45 Frasier.** (R) (S) 9.10  
**Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) (S) 10.10  
**Ramsey's Kitchen Nightmares USA.** (R) (S) 11.05  
**Car SOS.** (HD) (R) (S) 12.15  
**Can't Pay?** (HD) (R) (S) 1.10  
**Access.** (HD) (S) 1.20  
**10.5 News.** (HD) (S) 1.25  
**Lunchtime.** (HD) (R) (S) 12.05  
**Come Dine with Me.** (HD) (R) (S) 1.05  
**Escape to the Chateau: DIY.** (HD) (R) (S) 2.10  
**Countdown.** (HD) (S) 3.00  
**A Place in the Sun.** (HD) (R) (S) 4.00  
**New Life in the Sun.** (HD) (S) 5.00  
**Four in a Bed.** (HD) (S) 5.30  
**Extreme Cake Makers.** (HD) (S) 5.50  
**Neighbours.** (HD) (R) (S)

## CH5

FV 5, SKY 105, VIRGIN 105

**6.00 Milkshake!** 9.15  
**Jeremy Vine.** (HD) (S)  
**11.15 Traffic Cops.** (HD) (R) (S) 12.10  
**5 News.** (HD) (R) (S) 12.15  
**Can't Pay?** (HD) (R) (S) 1.10  
**Take It Away!** (HD) (R) (S) 1.20  
**Access.** (HD) (S) 1.25  
**15 Home and Away.** (HD) (S) 1.45  
**Neighbours.** (HD) (S) 2.20  
**Film.**  
**Murder, She Baked:** Just Desserts (2017). Mystery, starring Alison Sweeney and Cameron Mathison. (HD) (S) 4.00  
**Friends.** (HD) (R) (S) 5.00  
**5 News.** (HD) (S) 5.30  
**Neighbours.** (HD) (R) (S)

## BBC4

FV 9, SKY 116, VIRGIN 107

**6.00 Milkshake!** 9.15  
**Jeremy Vine.** (HD) (S)  
**11.15 Traffic Cops.** (HD) (R) (S) 12.10  
**5 News.** (HD) (R) (S) 12.15  
**Can't Pay?** (HD) (R) (S) 1.10  
**Take It Away!** (HD) (R) (S) 1.20  
**Access.** (HD) (S) 1.25  
**15 Home and Away.** (HD) (S) 1.45  
**Neighbours.** (HD) (S) 2.20  
**Film.**  
**Murder, She Baked:** Just Desserts (2017). Mystery, starring Alison Sweeney and Cameron Mathison. (HD) (S) 4.00  
**Friends.** (HD) (R) (S) 5.00  
**5 News.** (HD) (S) 5.30  
**Neighbours.** (HD) (R) (S)

## ITV2

FV 6, SKY 118, VIRGIN 115

**6.20 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records.** (S) 7.10  
**You've Been Framed!** Gold. (S) 8.00  
**Emmerdale.** (HD) (S) 9.00  
**Judge Judy.** (HD) (S) 9.55  
**You've Been Framed!** Gold. (S) 10.15  
**BGT: Top 10 Comedy Corkers.** (HD) (S) 11.15  
**The Guide to You've Been Framed!** Gold. (S) 12.15  
**Heartbeat.** A woman's husband returns from the grave. (S) 1.45  
**Classic Emmerdale.** (S) 2.50  
**Classic Coronation Street.** (S) 3.55  
**Agatha Christie's Poirot.** The sleuth investigates a cleaner's death. (HD) (S) 5.55  
**Friends.** (HD) (R) (S) 5.00  
**5 News.** (HD) (S) 5.30  
**Neighbours.** (HD) (R) (S)

## ITV3

FV 10, SKY 119, VIRGIN 117

**6.00 Classic Coronation Street.** (S) 6.55  
**6.45 The Avengers.** (HD) (S) 7.40  
**Kojak.** (HD) (S) 8.00  
**8.40 Quincy ME.** (HD) (S) 9.40  
**Minder.** (S) 10.45  
**The Sweeney.** (S) 11.50  
**The Professionals.** (S) 12.55  
**The Protectors.** Harry gets involved in a motor rally. (S) 1.30  
**ITV Racing: Live from Newmarket.** Coverage of day two of the Craven meeting. (HD) (S) 4.00  
**Minder.** Arthur buys a large consignment of wine. (S) 5.00  
**The Professionals.** A former agent turns to murder. (S)

## ITV4

FV 24, SKY 120, VIRGIN 118

**11.00 Film Garfield 2: A Tale of Two Kitties** (2006). Family comedy, with the voice of Bill Murray. (HD) (S) 12.55  
**Film Ice Age** (2002). Animated adventure, with the voice of John Leguizamo. (HD) (S) 2.10  
**Film Over the Hedge** (2006). Animated comedy, with the voice of Bruce Willis. (HD) (S) 3.50  
**Film Back to the Future Part III** (1990). Time-travelling teenager Marty McFly is transported back to the Wild West to save his scientist friend from death. Sci-fi comedy sequel, with Michael J. Fox. (HD) (S)

**6.00 BBC News at Six;** Weather. (HD) (S)  
**6.30 Look North;** Weather. (S)  
**6.55 Party Election Broadcast.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**7.00 The One Show.** (HD) (S)

**6.00 Richard Osman's House of Games.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**6.30 Island Medics.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**7.00 Antiques Road Trip.** (HD) (S)

**6.00 ITV News Calendar;** Weather. (HD) (S)  
**6.25 Party Election Broadcast.** (HD) (S)  
**6.30 ITV Evening News;** Weather. (HD) (S)  
**7.00 Emmerdale.** (HD) (S)  
**7.30 Coronation Street.** (HD) (S)

**6.00 The Simpsons.** (R) (S)  
**6.30 Hollyoaks.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**7.00 Channel 4 News.** (HD) (S)

**6.00 Home and Away.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**6.30 5 News Tonight.** (HD) (S)  
**7.00 Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh.** (HD) (R) (S) 5 News Update. (HD) (S)

**6.00 GPs: Behind Closed Doors.** (HD) (S) 5 News Update. (HD) (S)  
**9.00 Inside John Lewis: Profits & Problems.** (HD) (S)

**6.00 Kolkata with Sue Perkins.** (HD) (S)  
**9.00 Julius Caesar Revealed.** (HD) (S)

**7.00 Beyond 100 Days;** Weather. (HD) (S)  
**7.30 Secrets of Bones.** (HD) (S)

**6.00 Take Me Out.** (HD) (S)  
**7.30 You've Been Framed!** Gold. (S)

**7.00 Murder, She Wrote.** Jessica visits Amish country. (HD) (S)  
**8.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot.** An archaeologist's wife is murdered during an excavation. (HD) (S)

**8.00 River Monsters.** (HD) (S)  
**9.00 Magnum Force** (1973). (HD) (S)

**10.00 FYI Daily.** (HD) (S)  
**10.35 Film American Pie** (1999). (HD) (S)  
**11.00 The Bletchley Circle: San Francisco.** It becomes clear that San Francisco is in the grip of a killer. (HD) (S)

**10.00 FYI Daily.** (HD) (S)  
**10.35 Film Magnum Force** (1973). (HD) (S)  
**11.35 Film The Usual Suspects** (1995). (HD) (S)

**9.00 Film Exodus: Gods and Kings** (2014). Biblical epic, starring Christian Bale. (HD) (S)  
**11.10 Film Commando** (1985). Action adventure, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. (HD) (S)

**8.00 Supermarket Secrets.** (HD) (S)  
**9.00 Earth from Space.** (HD) (S)

**8.00 Great British Menu.** (HD) (S)  
**9.00 Mother-FatherSon.** (HD) (S)

**8.00 Britain's Brightest Family.** (HD) (S)  
**8.30 Coronation Street.** (HD) (S)  
**9.00 The Bay.** (HD) (S)

**8.00 Location, Location, Location.** (HD) (S)  
**9.00 Chimerica.** (HD) (S)

**10.00 Gogglebox.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**11.05 First Dates.** (HD) (R) (S)

**10.00 James Bulger: The New Revelations.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**11.05 Britain's Cocaine Epidemic.** (HD) (R) (S)

**10.00 The Normans.** (HD) (S)  
**11.00 Blazes and Brigades: The Story of the Fire Service.** (HD) (S)

**10.30 FYI Daily.** (HD) (S)  
**10.35 Film American Pie** (1999). Concluded. (HD) (S)  
**11.00 The Bletchley Circle: San Francisco.** It becomes clear that San Francisco is in the grip of a killer. (HD) (S)

**12.05 Police Interceptors.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**12.05 Teleshopping.** (HD) (S) 3.00  
**2.00 Kolkatta with Sue Perkins.** (HD) (S) 3.00  
**3.10 Wentworth Prison.** (HD) (R) (S) 4.00  
**3.45 French Collection.** (HD) (R) (S) 4.35  
**Kirstie's Handmade Treasures.** (HD) (R) (S) 4.45  
**House Doctor.** (HD) (R) (S)

**12.00 The Joy of Stats.** (S) 1.00  
**Buddha: Genius of the Ancient World.** (HD) (S) 2.00  
**2.00 Kolkatta with Sue Perkins.** (HD) (S) 3.00  
**Julius Caesar Revealed.** (HD) (S) 4.00

**12.00 American Dad!** (HD) (S) 12.30  
**12.55 American Pie.** (HD) (S) 1.00  
**12.55 The Cleveland Show.** (HD) (S) 1.25  
**1.50 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records.** (HD) (S) 2.20  
**Teleshopping.** (HD) (S)

**12.05 Law & Order: UK.** (HD) (S) 1.05  
**Law & Order: UK.** (HD) (S) 2.00  
**ITV3 Nighstreen.** (HD) 2.30  
**Teleshopping.** (HD) (S)

**1.05 FYI Daily.** (HD) 1.10  
**Film The Usual Suspects** (1995). Concluded. (HD) (S)  
**1.50 Lethal Weapon.** (HD) (S) 2.45  
**ITV4 Nighstreen.** (HD) 3.00  
**Teleshopping.** (HD) (S)

**12.55 Film Monsters: Dark Continent** (2014). (HD) (S) 3.20  
**Close**

**12.05 Celebrity Painting Challenge.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**1.05 Weather for the Week Ahead.** (HD) (S)  
**1.10 BBC News.** (HD) (S)

**12.15 Sign Zone: DIY SOS: The Big Build.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**1.15 Sign Zone: Race Across the World.** (HD) (R) (S) 2.15 This Is BBC Two. (S)

**12.10 British Touring Car Championship Highlights.** (HD) (S) 1.25  
**Jackpot247.** (HD) 3.00  
**Lethal Weapon.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**TYNE TEES VARIATIONS** 1.55 ITV News/Tyne Tees. 3.59 ITV News/Tyne Tees. 6.00 ITV News/Tyne Tees. 10.30 ITV News/Tyne Tees.

**12.10 The Great British School Swap.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**1.05 Film Love, Rosie** (2014). (HD) (S) 2.50  
**Coast vs Country.** (HD) (R) (S)  
**3.45 French Collection.** (HD) (R) (S) 4.35  
**Kirstie's Handmade Treasures.** (HD) (R) (S) 4.45  
**House Doctor.** (HD) (R) (S)

**12.10 Police Interceptors.</**

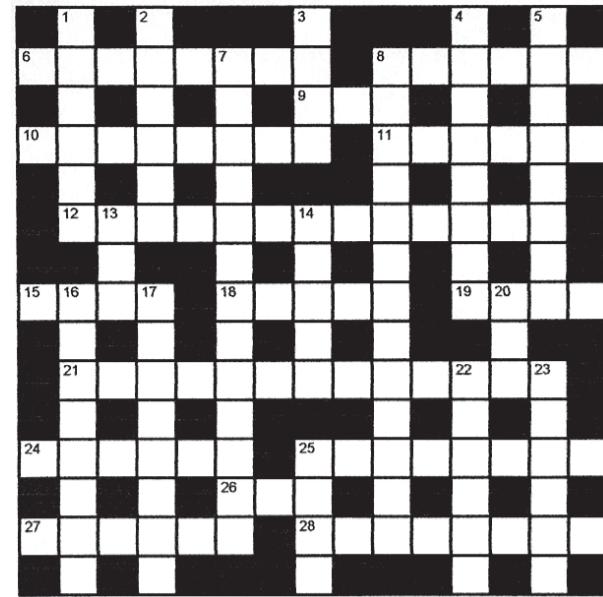
## CROSSWORD Peter Chamberlain No. 745

## ACROSS

- 6 From square, hurried with Queensland's openers and the Italian being calm (8)  
 8 Randy broadcast boastful talk (3,3)  
 9 Pastureland surrounding river (3)  
 10 Untidiness, it's a complaint (8)  
 11 Plaza least likely environment for bloomer (6)  
 12 About 30 years of misunderstanding? (10,3)  
 15 Pest removed in one's stride (4)  
 18 Look with anger at flower (5)  
 19 Armoured vehicle in reservoir (4)  
 21 Make a special effort to make a detour (2,3,2,3,3)  
 24 Treasure in one sign overhead (6)  
 25 Preliminary statement given by prior to walker losing both of his rights (8)  
 26 And not this way in a foreign country (3)  
 27 Pull out wine hidden in pipes (6)  
 28 Ripe and ready for use during three months of the year (2,6)

## DOWN

- 1 Cooking in oil young fish in German capital (6)  
 2 Some gentlemen jointly order with authority (6)  
 3 Smudge most of blue and red initially (4)  
 4 Frank removed shirt tag (8)  
 5 Surprisingly new dope! exposed to attack (4-4)



- 7 Noted lurching performing in bare essentials only? (13)  
 8 Completely in love somersaulting this (4,4,5)  
 13 Flower going up and down! (3)  
 14 One of a thick bunch of criminals? (5)  
 16 Get-up-and-go losing article disguised, dressed in fancy clothing (6-2)  
 17 Fruitful for 50 provided 99 follow (8)
- 20 Commander once more not available (3)  
 22 Deep cavity at last for marsupial (6)  
 23 White-livered and chicken-hearted (6)  
 25 Prude, one who is greedy right to be included (4)

**SOLUTION to Roger Squires No. 3484:** Across - 1 Tear duct, 5 Deform, 9 Redolent, 10 Beaten, 11 Accredit, 12 One-off, 14 Peace terms, 18 House-proud, 22 Oliven, 23 Mahogany, 24 Invert, 25 Division, 26 Martha, 27 Sergeant. Down - 1 Threat, 2 Abduct, 3 Delves, 4 Centimetre, 6 Eternity, 7 Outdoors, 8 Manifest, 13 Accusative, 15 Chromium, 16 Pullover, 17 Research, 19 Coming, 20 Marina, 21 Cygnet.

## DAILY TRIVIA

- 1 Richard Hannay is the hero in which John Buchan novel?  
 2 Which comedy duo appeared in Doctor Who and tried their hand at straight acting in the 1994 crime drama, A Pinch Of Snuff?  
 3 Automatically Sunshine gave which female US act a 1972 UK top ten hit?  
 4 Where in the human body

- would you find your vomer bone?  
 5 Bell's Vireo is a medium-sized what?  
 6 Which pop act featured in a 1968 movie called Head?  
 7 Who plays the femme fatale who betrayed Burt Lancaster in his screen debut in The Killers ...?

- 8 ... And in which year was the film released?  
 9 Where in Europe could you visit the port of Trieste?  
 10 The Siachen Glacier, one of the longest in the world, can be found in NW India. True or false?

## SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

## NO. 5147 EASY

2	7						6
5	1		6	4			
9		7	1	3			
		9		8			
			1	4			
5	9						
7	1	2		8			3
		3					
		5		6			

## NO. 5147 HARD

5	3	1		9		4
			2	9	6	
4		8		7		
	1			3		
9						
6		7	2			
2	9	5				
7	5	4				

## DATELINE

## April 17

**1860:** The first world title fight took place near Farnborough, Hants, when Tom Sayers took on American John Heenan. After 37 rounds - two hours and 27 minutes - the match was declared a draw.

**1937:** A British attendance record at a football match was set when 149,547 people watched Scotland v England at Hampden Park, Glasgow.

**1956:** Premium Bonds were launched.

**1960:** US rock star Eddie Cochran died in a car crash near Chippenham while on tour with Gene Vincent.

**1961:** An attempt by Cuban exiles and US forces to invade Cuba at the Bay of Pigs, and overthrow Castro's Communist regime, was repulsed.

**1984:** PC Yvonne Fletcher was shot dead outside the Libyan Peoples Bureau in central London. She had been policing a small demonstration outside the embassy.

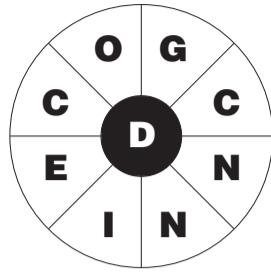
**2013:** Margaret Thatcher's funeral was held at St.Paul's Cathedral.

## BIRTHDAYS

**Henry Kelly**, DJ and game show host; **73; Jan Hammer**, composer; **71; Olivia Hussey**, actress; **68; Nick Hornby**, novelist; **62; Sean Bean**, actor; **60; Muttiah Muralitharan**, former cricketer; **47; Victoria Beckham**, singer; fashion designer; businesswoman; **45; Rooney Mara**, actress; **34**.

## HUBWORD

Find as many four-letter words and above as you can using the letters in the wheel. You must use the hub letter in each word, and you need to find one nine-letter word.



## WHO'S THAT?

Unscramble the anagrams to reveal the names of three famous people. We give you a clue to help

## 1 KING HENRY RISES

(German-born US statesman)

## 2 GROWS IN AND BORED

(Tough guy actor)

## 3 SWANKILY LASH

(Paddington actress)

## SUM IT UP

Each row and column is an equation, and you use the numbers 1 to 9 to complete the equations. Each number is used only once. Remember – multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

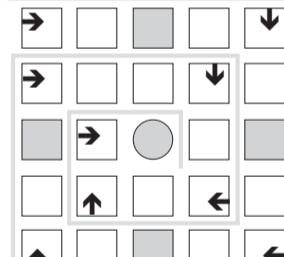
	÷		X			14
+		X		+		
	÷		+			11
-		+		-		
	X		-			39
2		11		15		

## ROUTEWORD

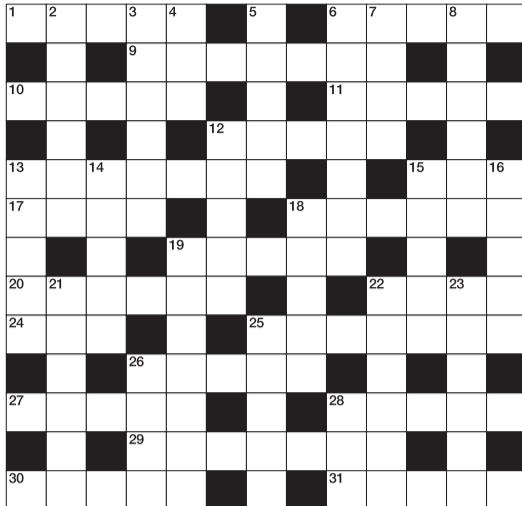
Work clockwise round the grid from the top left hand corner, using the last letter of the first word to start the next. The shaded letters spell out the routeword, so if you get stuck they should give you a kick-start.

- 1) Snare (4)  
 2) Sticking out (5)  
 3) Wandered slowly (7)  
 4) Made less bright (6)  
 5) Spinning top thrown in the air (7)

Clue: Sound



## QUICK CROSSWORD No. 9333



## ACROSS

1. Draconian (5)  
 2. Seem or look (6)  
 3. Tempests (6)  
 4. Female bird (3)  
 5. Sober and steady (5)  
 6. Loaf type (7)  
 7. Tenant's payment (4)  
 8. Bar or pub (6)  
 12. Any figure 1 to 9 (5)  
 13. Female dog (5)  
 14. Amazon, for example (5)  
 15. American state (5)  
 16. School furniture items (5)  
 18. Wallow (5)  
 19. Water tank (7)  
 21. Bob Marley's music (6)  
 22. Interment (6)  
 23. Stops (6)  
 25. To situate (5)  
 26. Male voice (4)  
 28. Small barrel (3)

**SOLUTION TO QUICK PUZZLE NO. 932:** Across: 3 Cheap; 8 Penny; 10 Besom; 11 Fir; 12 Broad; 13 Belated; 15 Calls; 18 Van; 19 Mulish; 21 Reneges; 22 Haul; 23 Melt; 24 Pioneer; 26 Albert; 29 Dan; 31 Diana; 32 Fertile; 34 Tiber; 35 Ill; 36 Sides; 37 Joker; 38 Ready; Down: 1 Defar; 2 Unravel; 4 Hard; 5 Abacus; 6 Pedal; 7 Goals; 9 Nil; 12 Benefit; 14 Tan; 16 Liver; 17 Shuts; 19 Meander; 20 Ahead; 21 Rumba; 23 Mention; 24 Praise; 25 Ear; 27 Licit; 28 Enter; 30 Alley; 32 Feed; 33 Ilk.

Today's puzzle solutions will be printed tomorrow.

## SOLUTIONS Yesterday's puzzles

**Daily Trivia:** 1 Evel Knievel; 2 1920s (1927); 3 Oxford; 4 2015; 5 The British Council; 6 Cairo; 7 Poet's Corner, Westminster Abbey; 8 Lyon; 9 Lisa Stansfield; 10 1989.

**Who's That?:** 1 Napoléon Bonaparte; 2 Chuck Berry; 3 Drake.

**Routeword:** 1 Rotating; 2 Garish; 3 Heron; 4 Notice; 5 Etch. Routeword: Ranch.

**Initially Yours:** The Day We Caught The Train; Oh Boy; Shazam!; Peppa Pig: Festival of Fun; Blue Planet Live.

**Hubword:** Did you beat the Hubmaster, whose list included – Cram, Crams, Farm, Farms, Mans, Mantra, Mars, Mart, Mast, Rams, Scam, Smart, Tarmac, Tram. Hubword – CRAFTSMAN.

**Sum it up:** 765; 894; 123.

SUDOKU  
No 5146 EASY

5	8	7	1	2	4	3	9	6
1	2	3	9	6	8	4	7	5
9	6	4	7	3	5	8	2	1
7	9	8	4	1	2	5	6	3
6	1	2	5	9	3	7	4	8
4	3	5	6	8	7	2	1	9
2	5	9	8	7	6	1	3	4
3	4	1	2	5	9	6	8	7
8	7	6	3	4	5	7	9	2

## No 5146 HARD

7	4	8	9	6	1	2	3	5
1	3	6	5	4	2	9	8	7
9	2	5	8	3	7	4	6	1
8	7	2	3	1	9	6	5	4
6	5	9	4	2	8	7	1	

# Secrecy on police's protest advice

**CHRIS BURN**  
NEWS CORRESPONDENT  
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Twitter: @chrisburn\_post

POLICE ADVICE on what a public meeting of Sheffield Council should be told about their plans to send dozens of officers to attend the authority's controversial tree-felling operations to deal with protesters remains largely secret.

An operation by South Yorkshire Police to send large numbers of officers to oversee controversial street tree-felling work and ensure demonstrators did not breach a civil injunction pre-

venting them from entering work zones was launched in February last year after clashes between protesters and private security guards hired by council contractor Amey in January led to allegations of assault being made by both sides.

Partially-redacted transcripts of planning meetings between the police, Sheffield Council and Amey have been released to *The Yorkshire Post* under Freedom of Information laws and have revealed how the three parties jointly planned a communications strategy despite the force insisting publicly it was com-

pletely impartial in the matter. They have also shown that police intended to push for prosecutions of arrested protesters due to the costs of sending officers to operations.

It can now also be revealed that in one meeting on February 5 last year an unidentified person asked what could be said "from my side" at a monthly council meeting due to take place two days later. One sentence of reply from a senior police officer has been made public followed by almost a page of redacted conversation.

The transcripts show the per-

son said: "It's for me to have an understanding really of what I can sort of say because I will be asked about this [inaudible] what we are doing and... it's gone beyond peaceful protest. It's what [redacted] is saying, can they allude to there are instances of what could be criminality? I am

**"I am just trying to understand what I can say."**

Unidentified person, talking to police about Sheffield Council meeting.

just trying to understand what I can say because I don't want to say anything because it will just get thrown back at us and there will be baying and shouting from the gallery."

Superintendent Paul McCurry replies: "We have certainly used a line that we are investigating criminal offences and when I go into our comms team in a second, we will talk about the offences."

This is then followed by almost a full page of redactions before someone says "[...] really clear and I will just come over to [redacted] just to talk about what the police's comms might look like."

Police have said redactions have made to protect legal privilege and that investigations "may still be continuing". But *The Yorkshire Post* has subsequently been told there are no outstanding cases relating to the operation.

Sheffield Council today refused to answer questions about the identity of the council representative and whether it was a councillor, as well as what the level of co-operation between the council, the police and Amey was during the operation.

Minutes from the February 7 council meeting show that in answer to questions about tree

work being put on hold following the clashes the previous month, Councillor Bryan Lodge, the then-cabinet member for environment and streetscene, said the pause "was the result of a review taking place and given concerns regarding safety". The minutes say he then added: "As regards the reports of injuries, the police were investigating a number of allegations of assault and if there was evidence of criminal activity, this should be handed to the police. Amey was assessing the risk as regards the safety of members of the public, protesters, workers, stewards and the police."

## No extra policing for world cycle race

A NORTH Yorkshire council has been told there will be no additional police support when it hosts an international cycling event expected to attract up to 250,000 spectators.

Police say they will stretch their resources across the region instead to tackle the slight rise in crime predicted when Harrogate welcomes the UCI Road World Championships for nine days from September 21.

Members of a Harrogate Borough Council scrutiny committee were advised of North Yorkshire Police's position during a briefing by Inspector Steve Breen, of the Harrogate Rural Team.

During questions, Liberal Democrat leader Pat Marsh had asked whether local police would receive additional support from neighbouring districts.

Insp Breen said managing the event would be done solely by the local authority, with the local policing teams set to utilise all their available resources.

"In terms of community policing, it's up to me and Insp Penny Taylor to make the best of it," Insp Breen said. "No one's getting any leave, no one's getting any days off."

Insp Breen said that pre-emptive police work conducted so far had led them to anticipate a temporary rise across all crime categories during the course of the cycling championships.

"A little bit more of everything is the general analysis," Insp Breen said. "We're not expecting a huge rise in any one particular crime."

He added that the overall rise could solely be attributed to the "huge volume of people" visiting the district for the event.



**SPRING DELIGHT:** Harrogate artist Anna Whitehouse at the Himalayan Garden with her sculpture of two giant spheres, adorned with hundreds of pollen grains entitled 'Rhodi Torana'.

PICTURES: GERARD BINKS

## Garden's new sculptures will complement spring flowers

A NEWLY commissioned sculpture will provide a new setting for what is believed to be the North's largest collection of spring rhododendrons.

Harrogate artist Anna Whitehouse has created two giant spheres adorned with hundreds of pollen grains sculptured from clay, at Yorkshire's Himalayan Garden and Sculpture Park, near Masham. Visitors will be able to

see her finishing the work over the next few days.

She said: "I knew that the garden had this huge collection of rhododendrons and I wanted to create something that celebrated that and invited viewers into the fascinating, microscopic world of pollen grains, which is something I've been working with for a couple of years."

The artwork marks a new

path which lets visitors view the rhododendron collections at close proximity for the first time.

It is among more than 80 sculptures spread over 45 acres at the garden, which also has an open-air gallery, arboretum and three lakes.

Peter Roberts, who created the gardens with his wife, Caroline, said: "The planting enhances our large art collection and we add more features every year."

## Briefing

### New operator for Luna Park funfair

**SCARBOROUGH:** The council has approved a lease to allow a new operator to take over the town's Luna Park funfair.

The famous seaside park had been run for decades by the Tubby family, but the lease has now been transferred to W Crow & Son, themselves considered a storied name in the amusement park industry.

Scarborough Council's cabinet member for corporate investment, Coun Helen Mallory, granted the change.

### Suspect search after train attack

**LEEDS:** Police investigating an incident in which a man was punched in the face want to trace a suspect.

The assault happened at 11.15pm on Tuesday, March 26 on a Leeds to Ilkley train waiting to depart from platform 2C.

The suspect was removed from the train by a member of the public.

Anyone who can help is asked to contact British Transport Police on 0800 405040.

### Plans to build care facility for elderly

**FILEY:** A care facility with 70 apartments for elderly residents could be built.

Not-for-profit housing provider Housing & Care 21 has applied to Scarborough Council to build the development in Scarborough Road. The site, formerly known as Filey Fields Farm, would be one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments under the plans, to be rented or bought under a shared-ownership scheme.

### New fund to help employers thrive

**SHEFFIELD:** A fund that cuts through red tape and helps put employers in charge of their own skills and training has launched.

Skills Bank, which runs across the Sheffield City Region, matches private sector investment with public funding to help businesses invest in training to improve productivity.

It is being provided by Calderdale College as part of the City Region's Growth Hub.

## Hospital workers protest after contractors change their pay dates

A PROTEST will be held today by hospital workers who say they will be left struggling to make ends meet after a private contractor changed their pay dates.

Members of the GMB union will gather at Barnsley Hospital as part of their dispute with ISS, an outsourcing firm which em-

ploys porters, cleaners and catering staff at the site.

The union said changes to the pay cycles of weekly-waged workers at the South Yorkshire hospital mean they will not be paid anything between April 18 and May 9, a gap of four full weeks.

The company has been offer-

ing "bridging loans" to its workers to cover the shortfall until they next receive their wages.

GMB organiser Stacey Booth said: "These brutal pay cycle changes are going to send some of the lowest paid people at the hospital into a terrifying spiral of debt. GMB members are deal-

ing with the fallout from an ISS payroll system not fit for the 21st century.

"Our members, the people who

keep these hospitals running, are

offered an online bridging loan

so they can keep a roof over their

heads and feed themselves."

ISS said it was aware that the

changes meant some employees

wait longer for their pay than

they currently do.

The company said in a state-

ment: "We are therefore offering

all impacted employees interest-

free loans to help smooth the wait

and to ensure that individuals

have the financial support they

need. Local managers are having proactive one-to-one discussions with their employees to ensure that our people receive the financial and emotional support to meet their specific needs."

"ISS will not withhold any money that is payable to any employee."

## TRAVEL INSURANCE for the over 50s

- All pre-existing medical conditions considered
- Unlimited medical expenses<sup>†</sup>
- 24 hour medical emergency helpline
- No upper age limit on Single Trip policies
- Up to £7,500 Cancellation cover<sup>†</sup>



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# Life jail terms in Bahrain mass trial over terror-related charges

**CHARLES BROWN**  
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Twitter: [@yorkshirepost](https://twitter.com/yorkshirepost)

A BAHRANI court has issued verdicts in a mass trial, sentencing 69 people to life in prison and revoking the citizenship of 138 defendants on terrorism-related charges.

The public prosecutor's office said that 70 others were sentenced to between three and 10 years imprisonment.

The defendants, of which 109 are in custody and 60 were tried in absentia, can appeal.

Charges against the group include forming a terrorist cell inside Bahrain with help from Iran

and launching terrorist attacks. The group was labelled as "Hezbollah Bahrain".

The Europe-based Bahrain Institute for Rights and Democracy (Bird) says this brings to total 990 people ordered stripped of their nationality since 2012, including political activists speaking out about human rights abuses.

Based on the names of the defendants, all appear to be Shi'ite Bahrainis, said Sayed Ahmed Al-Wadaei, director of advocacy at Bird.

In the years since Bahrain's 2011 Arab Spring protests, which saw tens of thousands from the country's majority Shi'ites de-

mand greater rights from the Sunni-led monarchy, authorities have dismantled opposition political groups, imprisoned activists, forced others into exile and clamped down on independent media outlets.

Opposition activists say the movement has been predominantly peaceful and international advocacy groups have frequently criticized the island kingdom's rights record.

Amid the crackdown, local Shi'ite militant groups have carried out numerous attacks on security forces.

Amnesty International has slammed the ruling as a "mockery of justice."

"With these outrageous sentences, Bahrain's authorities have once again demonstrated their complete disregard for international fair trial standards," Amnesty International's Middle East Research Director, Lynn Maalouf said in a statement.

"Arbitrarily stripping people of their citizenship and

rendering citizens stateless are blatant violations of international law.

"Bahrain's authorities must immediately stop relying on these unlawful measures as punishment," Maalouf added.

In another recent mass trial in February, 167 people were convicted, primarily for participation in a non-violent sit-in, said Amnesty.

In May of last year, 115 people were stripped of their citizenship following a single trial with the sentences upheld on appeal.

Mr Al-Wadaei of Bird said the Interior Ministry revoked his citizenship in 2015 on charges re-

lated to his political activism and human rights work.

His daughter, born in 2017, to a Bahraini mother was rendered stateless and is without a passport because Bahraini law only passes citizenship through the father.

Mr Al-Wadaei, who is based in London and seeking permanent residence in the UK, said other Bahrainis who have been stripped of their nationality since 2012 have mostly been Shi'ite Bahrainis.

Many people have been deported to Iraq and Lebanon, and a few others have been able to seek asylum in the UK and Canada.

## Briefing

Norwegian jailed as submarine spy

**RUSSIA:** A Moscow court has found a Norwegian man guilty of espionage and sentenced him to 14 years in a high-security prison.

Retired Norwegian border inspector Frode Berg was arrested in Moscow in December 2017. He was accused of collecting information about Russian nuclear submarines.

Berg denies the charges and his lawyer has called him the victim of a set-up. Berg had been a well-known figure in the border area.

Time to panic says green campaigner

**SWEDEN:** Teenage environmental activist Greta Thunberg claims that time is running out to halt climate change and she is urging European politicians "to panic".

The 16-year-old told EU leaders: "I want you to act as if the house is on fire."

During a speech which met with a standing ovation, Ms Thunberg fought back tears as she warned about rapid species extinctions, soil erosion, deforestation and the pollution of oceans.

Hoax bomb threat closes embassies

**SPAIN:** A hoax bomb threat called in to the Australian Embassy prompted the evacuation of a 57-storey office tower in Madrid.

Staff received a phone call with the security threat around midday yesterday, said police.

However, the call was deemed a false alarm. The tower had been evacuated by the time police and emergency services arrived. The Torre Espacio skyscraper also houses the embassies of the UK, Canada and the Netherlands.

Nearly 200m vote in crucial elections

**INDONESIA:** Around 193 million people are eligible to vote in a presidential election that will decide who leads a nation which is an outpost of democracy in a region of authoritarian governments.

Their choice in polls today is between five more years of the steady progress achieved under Indonesia's first president from outside the Jakarta elite, or electing a charismatic but volatile figure from the era of the Suharto military dictatorship that ended two decades ago.

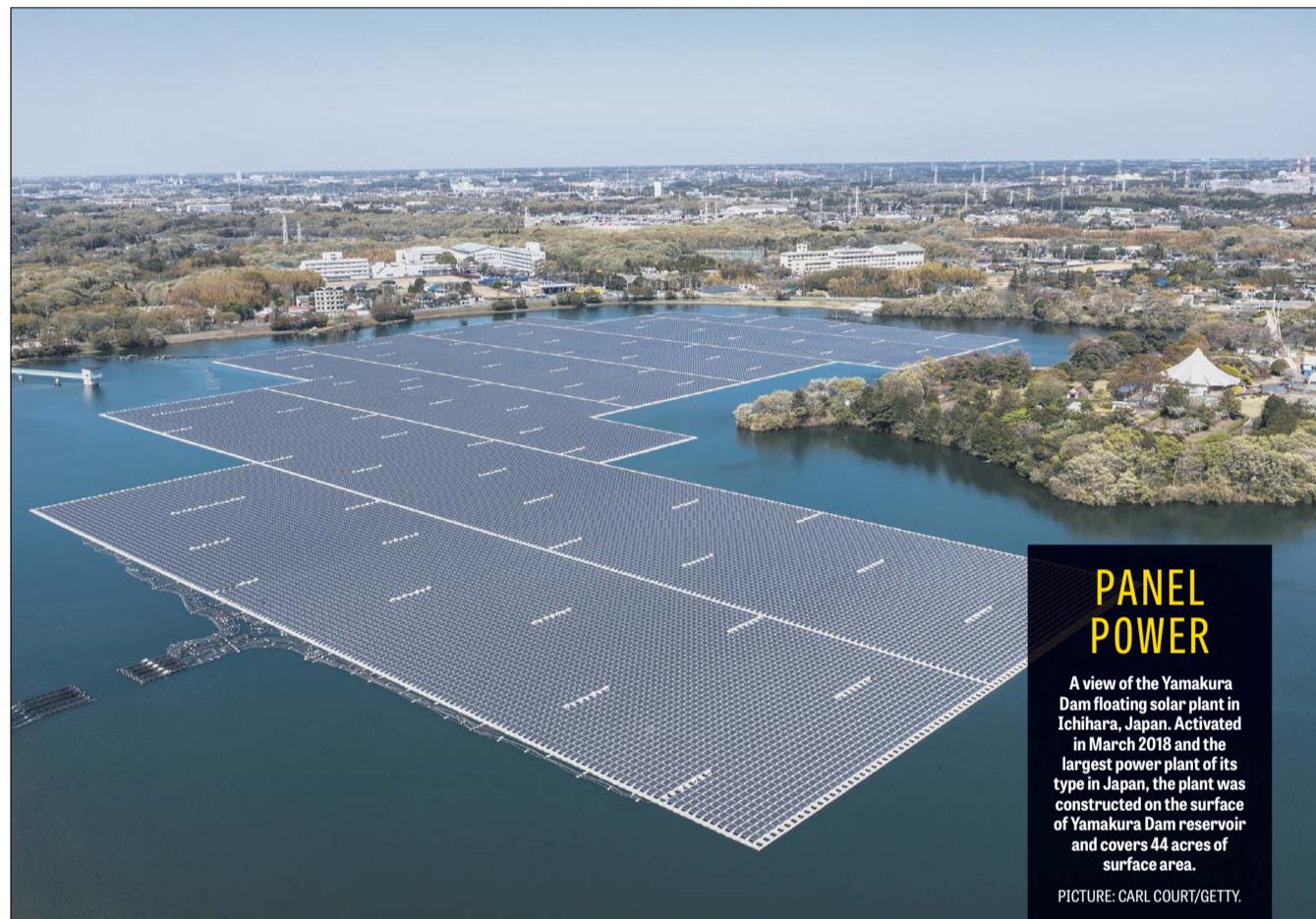
Ex-astronaut dies at the age of 88

**US:** Former Nasa astronaut Owen Garriott has died at his home in Huntsville, Alabama, aged 88.

Mr Garriott, who died on Monday, flew aboard the early space station Skylab in 1973, spending about 60 days in space.

He also was part of the ninth space shuttle mission aboard Columbia in 1983.

Mr Garriott was selected as an astronaut in 1965. He held other positions within Nasa, including director of Science and Applications in Texas.



## PANEL POWER

A view of the Yamakura Dam floating solar plant in Ichihara, Japan. Activated in March 2018 and the largest power plant of its type in Japan, the plant was constructed on the surface of Yamakura Dam reservoir and covers 44 acres of surface area.

PICTURE: CARL COURT/GETTY

## Trump faces first challenger for nomination



**DONALD TRUMP:** Accused of leaving nation in great peril with his skewed values.

A FORMER governor of Massachusetts has become the first Republican to challenge President Donald Trump for the nomination for US president in 2020.

William Weld, 73, said in announcing his candidacy that "it is time to return to the principles of Lincoln – equality, dignity and opportunity for all".

He said, "There is no greater cause on earth than to preserve what truly makes America great. I am ready to lead that fight."

Mr Weld has accused Mr Trump of leaving the nation in

"grave peril" and has said his "priorities are skewed toward promotion of himself rather than for the good of the country".

While Mr Trump's overall approval ratings have been poor for much of his presidency, he remains popular with Republican voters.

The Republican National Committee (RNC) in January issued a nonbinding resolution to declare the party's undivided support for Mr Trump.

The move by Mr Weld makes Mr Trump the first incumbent

president since George HW Bush in 1992 to face a notable primary challenge.

Mr Trump's campaign has taken extraordinary steps in cementing control over the RNC and the broader nomination process as it seeks to minimise the risk of any potential challenger doing the same to the president.

His campaign recently reported raising \$30m in the first quarter of this year, while Democrats are raising less money than in previous cycles.

Fiscally conservative but so-

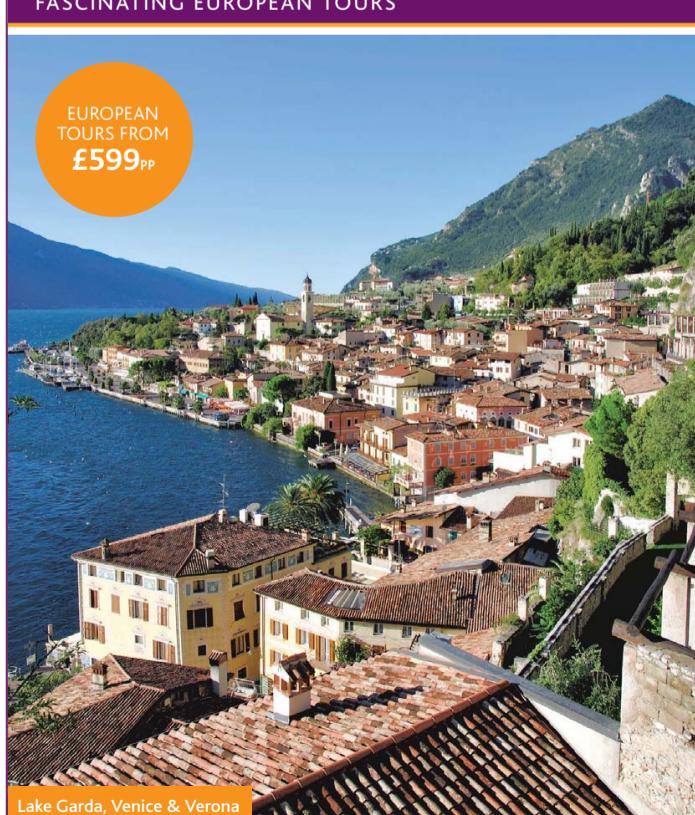
cially liberal, Mr Weld is known for an unconventional, at times quirky, political style and a long history of friction with the party he now seeks to lead.

Mr Weld endorsed Democrat Barack Obama over Republican nominee John McCain in 2008, and has enjoyed a decades-long friendship with the Clintons.

With little in the way of organisation or outside money, and at odds with a majority of Republican voters, Mr Weld's longshot campaign will target disaffected Republicans and libertarians.

## FASCINATING EUROPEAN TOURS

EUROPEAN TOURS FROM £599pp



Lake Garda, Venice & Verona

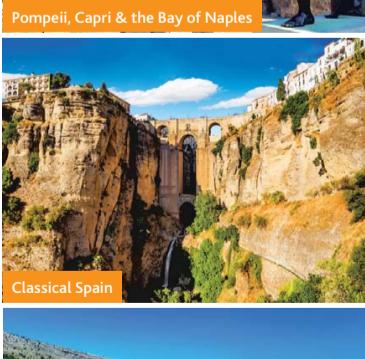
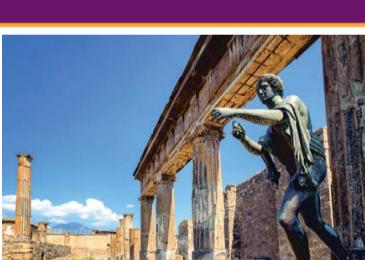
## Reader travel

THE YORKSHIRE POST

## EXPLORE EUROPE'S GREATEST SIGHTS ON A TRIP OF DISCOVERY

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8 days from £699pp



### CLASSICAL SPAIN – SEVILLE, CÓRDOBA & GRANADA

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Andalucía is one of the most beautiful corners of Europe, where the excesses of modern life do not seem to have taken root and travellers are welcomed as honoured guests. Immortalised by the writings of Ernest Hemingway and beloved by Orson Welles, it is the Spain of Carmen, Figaro and flamenco. Rich with the legacies of the Moors and Romans, its charm and serenity will captivate you.

Departures up to November 2019

### DUBROVNIK, THE DALMATIAN COAST & MONTENEGRO

8 days' half-board from £899pp

One of Europe's best-kept secrets, Croatia was ruled by the Romans, Byzantines, Venetians and the Habsburgs – and all have left their legacies. Lord Byron christened Dubrovnik 'Pearl of the Adriatic'; the Dalmatian coastline is one of the most dramatic in Europe; and if you can imagine what the Mediterranean was like 30 years ago, Montenegro is probably it.

Departures up to October 2019

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# THE YORKSHIRE POST

# Business



## SENDING A MESSAGE

Card Factory manages to hold on to flat sales in challenging conditions

PAGE 20

## Johnsons enjoy record trading but invests thousands to protect against Brexit

NORTH YORKSHIRE-BASED Johnsons of Whixley grew its sales 20 per cent to £8m between October 2018 and March 2019, an increase of £1.37m.

The commercial nursery business said it was its most successful half year of trading since the

company was established almost 100 years ago.

Managing director Graham Richardson said February in particular had seen a record number of orders, with both sales and top-up orders proving extremely robust.

However, he added the impact of Brexit was weighing heavily on its future plans and that it was investing hundreds of thousands of pounds to mitigate against potential staffing shortages.

The firm, which has sites in Whixley, Cattal and Roelcliffe, has

invested £70,000 in a new mechanical line capable of processing up to 7,000 plants a day while halving the number of workers required to perform the task manually, something its managing director said would be vital if Brexit has an effect on staff numbers.

Johnson's aims to invest a further £100,000 in a substantial amount of covered growing and storage space at its Roelcliffe site, to prepare for a Brexit eventuality that would affect imports of plants from Europe.

Mr Richardson said: "We don't

know what's on the horizon and as we are reliant on the economic and supply chain, Brexit has the potential to be catastrophic.

"Staffing is a major consideration for us. At the moment, European workers make up around one third of our nursery work-

force. And while we do not envisage an exodus as a result of Brexit, we have to be prepared."

"Consequently, the new production system will reduce the number of people required to complete certain tasks on the retail line."

## Reject 'dreadful' takeover bid, urges Provident



**PATRICK SNOWBALL:** Provident chairman has sent a strongly-worded letter to investors.

**ROSSNOWDON**  
CITY EDITOR  
Email: rossnowdon@ypn.co.uk  
Twitter: @RossNowdonYPN

**CREDIT LENDER** Provident Financial has written to shareholders to ask them to reject the "dreadful and opportunistic" hostile £1.3bn takeover bid by rival Non-Standard Finance (NSF).

In a strongly worded letter, Provident's chairman Patrick Snowball accused NSF of paying unlawful dividends and described the takeover bid as "more of a coup d'état than a hostile takeover, spearheaded by a management team at NSF with a track record of value destructive acquisitions and facilitated by two powerful shareholders".

Mr Snowball told investors: "These unlawful distributions are a telling indictment of the competency of the NSF team and the weak oversight of their board and must call into question their ability to run a business some seven times larger than their own and one which includes a regulated bank."

Bradford-based Provident has urged shareholders to take no action in respect of NSF's offer.

Mr Snowball said that while many of Provident's questions remain substantially unanswered, NSF finally acknowledged one of its questions last Friday and confirmed that certain dividends since 2015 have been in contravention of the Companies Act.

"They were described by NSF as 'technical infringements', but the simple fact and truth of the matter is that they were unlawful," said Mr Snowball.

"While NSF may now have accepted these failures under the Companies Act, through either indifference or arrogance or because they do not have the answers, they have failed to provide a comprehensive response to our other critical questions."

"I find this silence telling, particularly when it relates to straightforward questions regarding the future management of Vanquis Bank (which would be the largest business within the enlarged group), the implications of selling Moneybarn on the broader Provident Group or the genuine challenges of addressing the concerns for the CMA."

**£1.3BN**

The value of the hostile takeover bid by Non-Standard Finance for Provident Financial.

majority of the board have served for less than a year.

He said the new management team has made good progress with the turnaround of the business, seeking to address the poor delivery of the business in prior years.

In retaliation, NSF accused the Provident board of living in a "different world" and having an "extraordinary disregard" for some of its largest shareholders.

NSF's CEO John van Kuffeler said: "It (Provident) continues to celebrate 'the substantial progress over the past 18 months' – a period in which Provident has had to be rescued by a rights issue, has issued a profits warning, has had an 'irresponsible' advertising campaign banned and has paid out over £170m in customer redress."

NSF has acceptances for over 50 per cent of Provident's shares, including from Woodford Investment Management, Invesco Asset Management and Marathon Asset Management. Provident is exploring alternatives to maximise value for shareholders.

The CMA is currently investigating the deal and the FCA has also raised concerns.

## Lender could turn the tables on rival NSF and make its own bid

**ANALYSTS AT GOODBODY UK** have said Non-Standard Finance's takeover of Provident Financial is unlikely to proceed after the former admitted on Friday that it has made certain "technical infringements" of the Companies Act.

Goodbody concluded that if the deal fails, Provident could turn the tables and make its own bid for NSF.

Analyst John Cronin at

Goodbody said the fact that there were a number of separate infringements "does not look good for NSF".

However, he said there is strong industrial logic to putting the two businesses together, once the personalities are stripped out of the equation.

"So, we see the deal happening at some stage – just not on the current proposed terms," he said.

**SPORTS RETAILER** JD Sports has posted record results despite the UK's high street crisis, as it looks abroad for further growth opportunities.

The group reported a 49.2 per cent increase in annual revenue to £4.7bn for the 52 weeks to February 2, coming in at the higher end of market expectations.

Meanwhile, profit before tax was up 15.4 per cent to £339.9m.

JD said it was "not immune" to the challenges facing the UK retail sector, but that its British and Irish business had delivered a rise in sales and profitability.

The performance has reinforced management's belief that bricks-and-mortar stores are still having a positive influence, as the estate "raises brand awareness, provides consumers with an opportunity to physically see and try the product, and enables us to provide multiple delivery points".

Globally, the company opened

a net 83 new JD stores with 78 of these in international markets as the group turns its attention abroad.

Executive chairman Peter Cowgill said: "We firmly believe that the elevated and dynamic multibrand, multichannel proposition of the core JD fascia, which enjoys the ongoing support of the key international brands, has the necessary agility to continue to exceed consumer expectations and prosper in an increasing number of international markets."

In the US, the first five JD stores were opened, including four conversions of existing Finish Line stores.

JD bought the American retailer last year and has been working to improve its profitability.

According to Tuesday's update, sales densities have improved at Finish Line after an overhaul of the appearance of stores.

## Briefing

### Cosurica's IT deal for council sites

**SYSTEM:** Keighley-based IT provider, Cosurica, has been selected by Keighley Town Council to supply, install and support new IT systems for their 11 office staff, based in Keighley town centre, and their 30 council members based throughout the Aire and Worth valleys.

Work will start in the next month to install a wide range of products including secure public and private wi-fi networks.

Chance to enter our top awards

**HONOURS:** The Yorkshire Post's 2019 Excellence in Business Awards are open for entries.

We welcome multiple entries from businesses of all sizes and across all sectors.

For information about all the categories in this year's awards and details of how to enter, visit [www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/businessexcellenceawards/](http://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/businessexcellenceawards/).

This year's event will take place on November 7. The closing date is June 7.

**Gallagher appoints 'excellence' head**

**Hired:** Gallagher, one of the world's largest insurance, risk management and consulting firms, has appointed James Murray as head of office at its centre of excellence for corporate clients in Leeds.

Based on East Parade, Mr Murray leads a team of risk and insurance experts who support major clients, including large private and public companies and complex multinationals.

## Britain is heading for the age of the SME, business event is told

**YORKSHIRE'S SMALL** and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) have a vital role to play in boosting economic growth during a period of uncertainty, a major business event was told.

A business breakfast organised by Huddersfield Town heard that Britain could be entering "the age of the SME" as consumers and suppliers demand a more personal service.

The event, which was hosted by Louise Woollard Financial, acted as a sounding board for the views of members of the Huddersfield Hundred, the football club's commercial partners.

Speaking after the event, Sean Jarvis, Huddersfield Town's commercial director, said: "We've got a lot of SMEs in Huddersfield and it is the age of the SME. Their voice is much stronger when they understand each other so they can speak louder."

"Huddersfield is a fantastic place and has an awful lot of success stories and some great businesses within it. We have to encourage a collective of the 'hundred' to go to places like London and Leeds and tell their story."

**SEAN JARVIS:** "Huddersfield is a fantastic place and has an awful lot of success stories."

On the back of this morning we will facilitate that."

Ms Woollard said: "We're stronger together by trying to make things happen. There is a lot of investment in Yorkshire as a region, but not necessarily in Huddersfield and we have got to find out why. We have got some fabulous buildings that could be used by businesses."

The event heard presentations from wealth management consultant Chris Cahill and Greg Wright, deputy business editor of The Yorkshire Post.

## Small firms in dark over Brexit

**THE MAJORITY OF UK SMEs** are still completely in the dark over what to expect, or how to better prepare for life after Brexit, according to new research released today.

According to a survey of 1,200 SME owners across the UK, commissioned by Simply Business, three quarters of self-employed

people admit to feeling unsupported ahead of Brexit. A third have decided to delay growth plans and further investment in their business, while 8 per cent stated that they're having to make redundancies to cut costs.

Bea Montoya, of Simply Business, said: "There isn't a blueprint for what happens after Brexit."

## MARKET REPORT

# Improving sentiment sees FTSE at a six-month high

THE FTSE 100 jumped to a new six-month high on Tuesday as investor sentiment improved across European markets.

London's top flight rose to 7,469.92, up 33.05 points, or 0.44%.

The German Dax and French Cac each also reached highs for the period, as investor appetite continues to be boosted by a number of factors.

David Madden, market analyst at CMC Markets UK, said: "The fact that Brexit has been delayed, and the European Central Bank are willing to launch another round of targeted lending later this year, has helped investor appetite."

"US-China trade talks have been moving in the right direction recently, and that has been a factor too."

Wall Street also opened in a bullish mood, as the S&P 500 surged to its own six-month high, buoyed by improvements in US-China trade talks. The Dow also saw a boost.

The pound slipped in the afternoon, despite steady unemployment figures, dropping 0.4% against the US dollar to 1.304 and 0.3% down against the euro to 1.156.

In company news, shares in JD Sports closed higher after the company hailed a record year for revenues despite the UK's continued high street crisis.

The group reported a 49.2% increase in annual revenue to £4.7b for the 52 weeks to February 2, coming in at the higher end of market expectations.

## SHARE PRICES

## MAIN CHANGES

	Price ↑	Price ↓
<b>Card Factory</b>	194 <sub>4</sub> +17 <sub>4</sub>	
<b>Games Grp</b>	3974 +256	
<b>Ashmore Gp</b>	484 <sub>4</sub> +28 <sub>4</sub>	
<b>Wizz Air Holdings</b>	3447 +118	
<b>Amigo Holdings</b>	257 +8 <sub>2</sub>	
<b>GVC Hldgs</b>	642 +20 <sub>4</sub>	
<b>Close Brothers</b>	1605 +44	
<b>St James Place</b>	1117 +30	
<b>WPP</b>	909 <sub>4</sub> +24 <sub>4</sub>	
<b>Prudential</b>	1748 <sub>4</sub> +46 <sub>4</sub>	
<b>Hargreaves</b>	2205 +57	
<b>Renishaw</b>	4592 +118	
<b>TUI AG</b>	815 <sub>4</sub> +20 <sub>4</sub>	
<b>Essentra</b>	429 <sub>4</sub> +10 <sub>4</sub>	
<b>Paddy Power</b>	6502 +154	

Meanwhile, profit before tax was up 15.4% to £339.9m. Its stock hit a record high of 576.6p, after it jumped up 44.6p.

Elsewhere in retail, Card Factory's 3.3% rise in full-year revenues also chimed well with investors, after posting figures it described as "robust despite

a tough consumer environment".

Nevertheless, it also reported an 8.3% decline in profit before tax to £66.6m for the year to January 31. Shares were up 17.7p at 194.8p.

Construction firm Galliford Try saw shares slump after it issued a profit warning and announced plans to undertake a strategic review.

Shares plummeted 149p to 576.5p, after it said the review would result in reduced profitability in the current year - it anticipates a fall in full-year profit of between £30m and £40m.

The chairman of takeover target Provident accused suitor Non-Standard Finance (NSF) of "unlawful" activity and urged shareholders to take no action over the "dreadful deal" on the table.

Patrick Snowball said in a letter to shareholders that NSF's £1.3b offer for the firm resembles "more of a coup d'état than a hostile takeover". Shares rose 0.8p to 516.8p.

A barrel of Brent crude oil was up 0.08% at 71.3 US dollars.

In Europe, the French Cac was 0.36% higher and the German Dax was up 0.67%.

The biggest risers on the FTSE 100 were St James's Place, up 30p at 1,117p, WPP, up 24.4p at 909.6p, Prudential, up 46.5p at 1,748p and Hargreaves Lansdown, up 57p at 2,205p.

The biggest fallers on the FTSE 100 were Modi, down 45p at 1,759p, DS Smith, down 6.8p at 352.3p, Centrica, down 2.05p at 107p, and Compass Group, down 28p at 1,725p.

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## MAJOR INDICES



**FTSE 100** 7469.92 (+33.05)

**FTSE 250** 19923.38 (+116.29)

**FTSE All Share** 4092.04 (+18.92)

**TechMark 100** 4911.86 (+31.96)

**FTSE Small Cap** 5598.83 (+21.56)

**AIM** 951.05 (+3.24)

**FTSE Fledgling** 9279.02 (+22.10)

**Eurofirst 300** 1529.25 (+4.68)

**RPI (Feb)** (May 87 = 100) 285.0

**Base Rate** 0.75%

**Inflation Rate** +1.8%

**UK Unemployment** 3.90%

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE

	Bid	Ask
Australia	1.818	1.820
Canada	1.741	1.743
Czech Republic	29.608	29.708
Denmark	8.624	8.625
Egypt	22.574	22.580
Euro	1.155	1.156
Hong Kong	10.229	10.239
India	90.600	90.850
Israel	4.652	4.662
Japan	146.080	146.090
Malaysia	5.391	5.396
Mexico	24.744	24.745
New Zealand	1.928	1.933
Norway	11.068	11.109
Philippines	67.487	67.617
Poland	4.934	4.941
Saudi Arabia	4.891	4.896
Singapore	1.764	1.769
South Africa	18.311	18.386
Sweden	12.056	12.066
Switzerland	1.313	1.314
Thailand	41.474	41.574
Turkey	7.568	7.578
United States	1.305	1.305

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## INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

New York (Dow Jones)	26,452.66 (+67.89)
Paris (CAC 40)	5528.67 (+19.94)
Tokyo (Nikkei 225)	22221.66 (-52.55)
Frankfurt (DAX XETRA 6PM)	12101.32 (+81.04)
Hong Kong (Hang Seng)	30129.87 (+319.15)
Singapore (Straits Times)	3332.04 (+6.18)

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## STERLING

	Close	Change
Pound/Euro	1.1555	-0.0034
Pound/Dollar	1.3049	-0.0056
Sterling Index	79.61	

## BULLION

	Bid	Ask
Gold (dollar)	1277.10	1310.00
Silver (dollar)	14.99	14.90

## BRENT CRUDE

	Jan	\$71.18	-\$0.37
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## TOURIST RATES

Australia	1.7357	\$
Canada	1.6697	\$
China	7.8446	yuans
Czech Republic	27.28	kronas
Denmark	8.2185	krone
Egypt	20.05	pounds
Euro	1.105	euro
Hong Kong	9.7365	\$
India	80.24	rupees
Israel	4.2014	shekels
Japan	139.41	yen
Malaysia	5.0633	ringgit
Mexico	22.02	pesos
New Zealand	1.8036	\$
Norway	10.60	krone
Philippines	57.95	pesos
Poland	4.3522	zloty
Saudi Arabia	4.5885	riyal
Singapore	1.6515	\$
South Africa	17.26	rands
South Korea	1294.00	wons
Sweden	11.58	krona
Switzerland	1.252	francs
Taiwan	35.29	\$
Thailand	37.22	bahts
Turkey	7.2146	new lira
United States	1.305	\$

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# Security giant G4S posts revenue growth as it separates business

THE SECURITY giant at the centre of recent takeover interest G4S has posted first quarter revenue growth and said it is making progress in the separation of its cash business.

Revenues for the first quarter to March 31 rose 4.8 per cent on the back of growth across all regions and divisions.

Its secure solutions division, the company's largest area, delivered 4.9 per cent revenue growth propelled by large rises in Africa and the Americas, up 9.3 per cent and 8.5 per cent respectively.

Revenues from its cash solutions business rose 4.4 per cent as it was buoyed by more than 30 per cent growth in its North

America retail cash business. The company announced in December it was looking to split off its cash business to focus on its security operations.

Last month it said it received interest from potential bidders over the unit.

It has made "good progress" in its separation review intended to

establish two independent businesses, G4S group chief executive Ashley Almanza said.

During the first quarter of the year, G4S also sold a parking-management business in Estonia for £5m.

The business generated £6m in revenues last year, it said.

Mr Almanza added: "Our sales

wins in the second half of 2018 provided a good start to 2019."

"This momentum, together with growing technology-enabled services in both our cash and security businesses, underpins a positive outlook for the group."

"We continue to make good progress with our separation review with the aim of establishing

two strong, independent businesses that are able to take advantage of their market leading positions and excellent service offerings for the benefit of customers, employees and shareholders. The board believes that a separation has the clear potential to unlock substantial shareholder value."

Shares in G4S surged last week after Canadian security firm Garda World confirmed it is considering a takeover of the British firm. Garda said it was in the preliminary stages of considering an approach to the board of G4S regarding a possible cash offer, driving shares up 24 per cent on April 10.

# Card Factory hangs on to flat sales in a hostile environment

## Retailer presses on with store openings

**ROSSNOWDON**  
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BUDGET GREETINGS card retailer Card Factory said it has maintained flat like-for-like sales despite a tough consumer environment.

The Wakefield-based group reported 3 per cent rise in revenue to £436m in the year to January 31 although pre-tax profits fell 8 per cent to £66.6m.

Card Factory opened 51 new stores in the period, taking its total estate to 972. It is working towards a target of 1,200 stores in the UK and Ireland.

Profits were also negatively affected by the Getting Personal online business, which saw a decline in sales.

In contrast, online sales on the core Card Factory website rose 56 per cent.

The group's chief executive Karen Hubbard said the group delivered a robust performance for the year and margins would be improved through more efficient production techniques.

"We have further initiatives planned for the current year which will bring further production back to the UK, whilst also implementing additional plans that will allow an improved focus on customer service in-store," she said.

She reiterated that earnings in the current financial year are expected to be flat compared with 2018 due to continuing cost pressures.

Updating on current trading, she said: "Whilst the new financial year is just two months old, we are satisfied with the start we have made and are particularly pleased with record seasonal performances from Valentine's



KAREN HUBBARD: The chief executive said Card Factory delivered a robust performance and margins would be improved through more efficient production.

PICTURE: TONY JOHNSON

Day and Mother's Day." She said that initial trials with Aldi in the UK, in an Australian retailer, and with a franchise partner in Jersey show that the Card Factory brand is a footfall driver.

"We will pursue these types of opportunities to open new routes to market where we see attractive returns," she added.

Zoe Mills, retail analyst at GlobalData

**"The retailer must not lose focus on protecting margins."**

Zoe Mills, retail analyst at GlobalData

balData, said: "Card Factory's latest results have highlighted that even value and discount retailers are struggling to drive spend and footfall amid declining consumer confidence in the UK."

"Despite having such a large store estate - at a time when many retailers are reducing their number of physical locations - the greetings card specialist shows no signs of slowing its expansion strategy," she added.

Ms Mills said that despite a number of cost saving measures, such as in-house printing and supply chain optimisation, Card Factory's operating profits have come under increasing

pressure, falling 6 per cent to £70.8m.

"A poor festive period this financial year, compared to its usual tendency of performing better during seasonal events, will have had a negative impact on full-year profitability," she added.

"While store rollout out is a priority, the retailer must not lose focus on protecting margins and stimulating spend, especially since our consumer data shows that demand for greeting cards continues to drop year-on-year - with the throw-away nature of the product conflicting with consumers rising sustainability concerns and rising stamp prices dampening demand."

## Company being hit by the low levels of consumer confidence

**ANALYST FIONA CINCOTTA** at [www.cityindex.co.uk](http://www.cityindex.co.uk) said Card Factory has suffered from low levels of consumer confidence.

"Card Factory has dangled the prospect of another special dividend, helping to add some positive news to what is otherwise a relatively weak profit result," she said.

"It's always a concern when sales at existing stores are going backward while you're rolling out dozens of new ones."

Ms Cincotta said low levels of consumer confidence are partly to blame for the fall in store footfall, although the single greeting cards market is showing signs of resilience.

"But these lower profit numbers will ultimately add to nagging doubts that a company selling paper cards from bricks and mortar stores can flourish in a world where folks can send amusing memes on Facebook for free."

## Firms urged to 'make tax digital'

**WARNING:** More businesses need to start registering for the 'Making Tax Digital' (MTD) regime, according to the Yorkshire-based accountants Thomas Coombs.

The new digital tax regime came into effect on April 1 and requires around 1.2 million VAT registered businesses earning over £85,000 to keep their records digitally and submit online VAT returns. However, HMRC has said that the initial sign up for the MTD regime has been slow.

## Allott social media deal confirmed

**CONTRACT:** Marketing agency Allott and Associates has been appointed an authorised platinum partner for SoAmpli.

The deal enables it to promote and lease pioneering software that allows the sharing of social media content by supporters and employees across multiple social media channels and further strengthens its social media marketing services for 2019. The software allows a single post to be multiplied more than a thousand times.

## Mr Kipling cakes firm Premier Foods expected to be broken up

PRODUCER OF Mr Kipling cakes Premier Foods is expected to press ahead with a break-up of the group in the coming months.

It is understood that the company, which has been under pressure from activist investors, has hired bankers at boutique advisory firm d'Angelin & Co to help manage the process.

In February, Premier launched a strategic review, bowing to pressure from investors Oasis and Paulson, who own more than 20 per cent of the group and had called for a radical shake-up.

Insiders believe that, while all options are on the table, including a sale, a break-up is now the most likely.

Premier is also behind custard

brand Ambrosia, Batchelors soups, Bisto gravy and Oxo cubes.

It is understood that d'Angelin's involvement is at the behest of Paulson, which recently gained a seat on the food firm's board.

Premier has a market capitalisation of around £300m but any break-up or sale would be complicated by its large-scale pension liabilities and £500m debt pile.

The activists scored a victory in November when chief executive Gavin Darby, inset, said he would stand down following criticism from Oasis.

The group had been critical of his strategy, in particular when he oversaw the successful defence of a 60p-per-share takeover tilt from McCormick in 2016.

Instead of tying up with McCormick, Premier in that year announced a collaboration agreement with Japan's Nissin Foods. Premier has also recently scrapped plans to sell off Ambrosia, blaming the current business climate, and last year abandoned the sale of its fast-growing Batchelors brand. Both could again be put up for sale as part of a break-up.

With the help of his then girl-

friend Mandi - who sold her sports car to help fund the venture - he opened his first shop, Binns Quality Meats, in Rawson Market, Bradford in 1999.

After a successful start they soon moved to larger premises in the Oastler Shopping Centre, where the business went from strength to strength.

In 2016 the business expanded further when Mandi gave up a career in IT to build a bakery unit next to the shop and launch The Quality Yorkshire Pie Co.

Mr Binns started his working life in the family butchery business 35 years ago, at the age of 14, where he learned the trade from his father.

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Later that year, Mr Binns took over his father's shop in Saltaire and later moved the whole business to the Bingley Road premises.

The couple, who are support-

ed by a team of four, have since refurbished the shop and established the bakery business.

Mr Binns said: "I have been a butcher all my working life and it's not just a job but a great passion for me - so being awarded membership of the Q Guild is a huge honour."

"We pride ourselves on the handpicked quality meat we provide to our customers - we source all our produce locally, so we have full traceability and everything is farm fresh, which the customers really appreciate."

"The business has thrived for 20 years, but growth has been rapid since we moved to Saltaire, which is a wonderful location to be in."

The award has been presented to Paul Binns and his wife Mandi, who have invested £100,000 refurbishing and extending the 20-year-old business, which is based on Bingley Road in Saltaire.

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## Cricket

# Archer to be given chance to stake his Cup claim

**RORY DOLLARD**  
SPORTS REPORTER  
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ENGLAND are preparing to unveil their provisional World Cup squad at Lord's today and will finally declare their hand on wild-card pick Jofra Archer.

National selector Ed Smith will name an initial group of 15 for the tournament on home soil, alongside an expanded squad of 17 for the preceding series against Pakistan, with the newly-qualified Archer set for his maiden call-up.

The Barbados-born paceman – an eye-catching googly bowler and a star of the Twenty20 franchise circuit – was already guaranteed an audition versus Pakistan, but the temptation to draft him immediately for both squads has also built a head of steam.

Even so, World Cup rules allow teams to make alterations up until May 22, the earlier deadline essentially serving marketing needs rather than sporting ones, meaning Smith's pronouncement is not yet final.

Should Archer be included in the 15 but fare poorly in his early outings he could be unceremoniously ditched at the last minute, a fate that awaits someone else if the Sussex player is held in reserve at first and excels from the off.

Tom Curran and Yorkshire's David Willey appear to be the seamers most likely to feel the heat, though the latter's status as a left-arm option and the most consistent swinger of the Kookaburra ball may tip the scales in any head to head.

Willey and Mark Wood are among those to have publicly pondered the potential of disruption in what has been a settled limited-overs squad and new-ball bowler Chris Woakes entered the fray yesterday, saying: "It (Arch-

## Aussies recall shamed pair

**BATSMEN** Steve Smith and David Warner have been named in Australia's World Cup squad, marking their return to the national team following bans over the ball-tampering scandal.

Former captain Smith and Warner were suspended for a year due to their roles in the plan to manipulate the ball using sandpaper during last March's third Test match against South Africa, which went on to cause international outrage.

Now the disgraced duo, who have played in this season's Indian Premier League (IPL), will return to the international stage in the tournament in England and Wales, which starts on May 30.

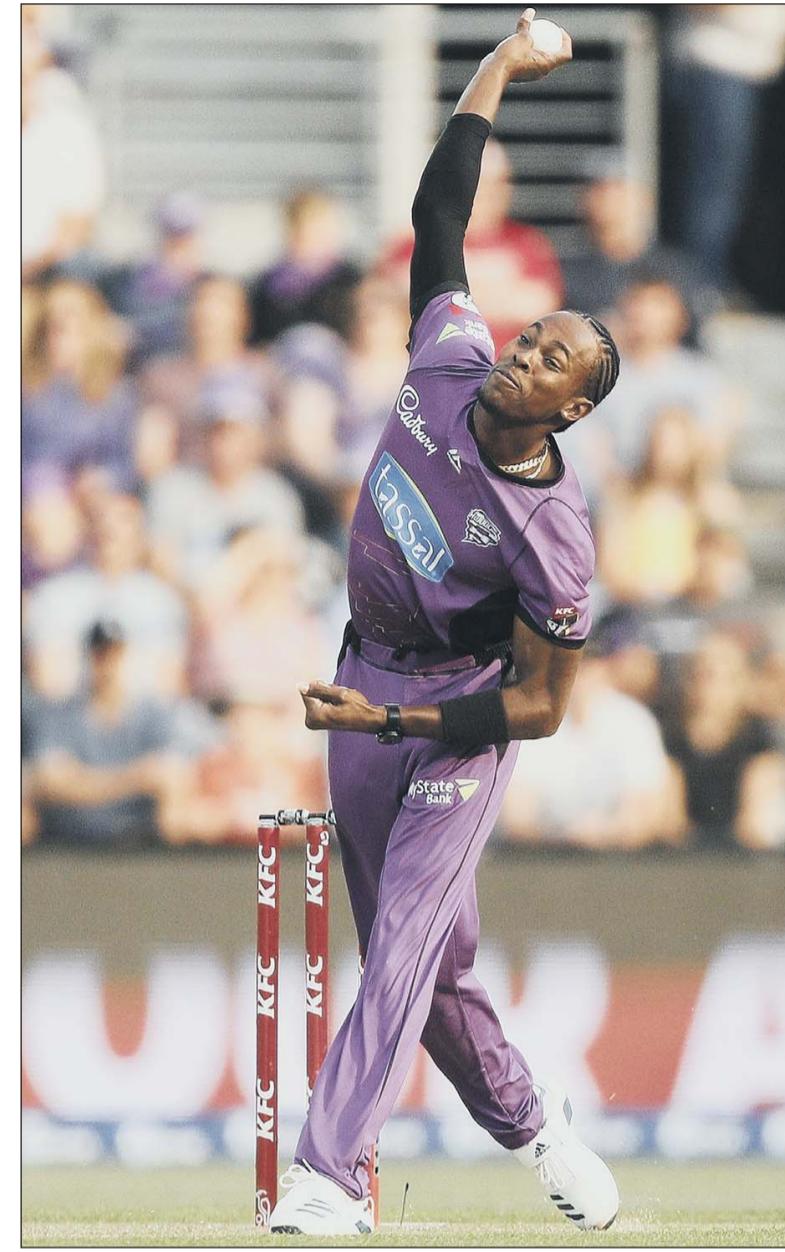
er's World Cup selection) probably wouldn't be fair, morally, but at the same time it's the nature of international sport.

"I'm sure there's a few questions being thrown around by the selectors, a few names here and there, but I'd imagine the 15 is not too far off what you'd expect. Whether that changes or not in due course we don't know."

"It's important for everyone to put some performances in to really cement their place in the squad."

"Whenever you've got an opportunity to perform for England you have to take it because there's always someone knocking on your door who wants your position."

"Realistically there could be 17 or 18 players who could make the cut so it's probably not the time to rest on your laurels."



**IN THE FRAME:** Jofra Archer may be named in England's provisional World Cup squad. PICTURE: GETTY IMAGES

I want to be part of the XI and play that opening World Cup game.

Chris Woakes hopes he will be able to play a part in this summer's World Cup.

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## RACING



SPEED KING: David Griffiths' Take Cover won the past two renewals of the Beverley Bullet before retiring at the end of last season.

PICTURE: PA

**Tom Richmond**  
RACING CORRESPONDENT  
  
tom.richmond@jpimmedia.co.uk  
@OpinionYR

OFFICIALS AT Beverley say they are "raring to go" after confirming that prize money will increase by five per cent this year.

They made the announcement to coincide with the start of the 2019 Flat season on the town's picturesque Westwood this afternoon.

The investment will enhance the status and value of two of the East Yorkshire's racecourses more prestigious races as Beverley continues to receive national recognition for its continuing transformation under chief executive Sally Iggleton.

Specifically, money will go into the Beverley Bullet – a sprint won for the past two seasons by the now retired Take Cover – and the

He said: "We are very much full of optimism for the new season."

"Last year we were fortunate enough to witness an increase in attendances and also see some very good winners of our big races, not least the brilliant Take Cover in the Beverley Bullet."

"It was also most pleasing to see us recognised at the RCA (Racecourse Association Awards) for outstanding initiative with our deaf-friendly raceday."

"We have done a certain amount of new work in the close season, most pertinently with new fencing down the course and important developments in the stabling area.

Sheriff Hutton-based Walford

said: "He ran really well at Pontefract a week ago and did nothing there to suggest that he wasn't capable of winning over a mile and a half."

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he hadn't had a run for a while rather than him not getting the trip."

"That day we were hoping he'd run well, but now he's a bit fitter we're expecting him to run well at a track he loves."

Meanwhile former footballer

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**Briefing**

Fears heighten for goal-shy Brighton

**Premier League:** Cardiff City boosted their hopes of a great escape with a vital 2-0 victory which increases the relegation fears of fellow strugglers Brighton.

Goals either side of half-time from Nathaniel Mendez-Laing and Sean Morrison moved the 18th-placed Bluebirds to within two points of the Seagulls.

Toothless Brighton, who have managed just two top-flight goals at the Amex Stadium in 2019, once again struggled to create as they suffered a fourth successive league loss.

Glenn Murray headed against the woodwork in stoppage time but the Seagulls offered little in attack and remain anxiously looking over their shoulders.

With title-chasing Liverpool and Manchester United still to come this season, anything but a win on the south coast would have left the visitors with an improbable chance of avoiding an immediate return to the Sky Bet Championship.

Snodgrass handed a one-game ban

**Premier League:** West Ham winger Robert Snodgrass has been handed a one-match ban after an Independent Regulatory Commission found him guilty of misconduct towards UK Anti-Doping officials, the Football Association has announced.

Scotland international Snodgrass was not scheduled to be tested nor did he refuse to take a test when officials visited West Ham's training ground in February, it is understood.

The 31-year-old – who has previously played for Leeds United and Hull City – has also been fined £30,000.

An FA statement read: "A misconduct charge against Robert Snodgrass has been found proven by an Independent Regulatory Commission."

"It was alleged that his language and/or behaviour towards UK Anti-Doping officials, who were visiting West Ham United's training ground on 06 February 6, 2019, was abusive and/or insulting and/or improper."

Shan is the man for Baggies play-off bid

**Championship:** West Brom caretaker manager Jimmy Shan will remain in charge until the end of the season.

The 40-year-old has overseen four wins in six games since the Baggies sacked Darren Moore last month.

While there was never an official approach, Albion wanted Preston boss Alex Neil but the Scot signed a new three-year deal at Deepdale on Sunday.

Shan said: "I'm happy that we can now move forward with clear planning and direction for the remainder of the season.

"It won't change the work ethic and application of the players and the staff but it enables us to crack on with a clear target in our sights."

**Results****Football**

**UEFA Champions League Quarter-Final, First Leg:** (2) Man Utd .....(0)0

Barcelona .....(2) Man Utd .....(0)0

Messi 16, 20

Coutinho 61

Aggregate: 4-0

**Juventus** .....(1)1 Ajax .....(0)2

Ronaldo 28

van de Beek 34

de Ligt 67

Aggregate: 2-3

**Premier League**

Brighton .....(0)0 Cardiff .....(0)2

Mendez-Laing 22

Morrison 50

Alt 30, 26

P W D L F A Pts

Liverpool .....34 26 7 1 77 20 85

Man City .....33 27 2 4 86 22 83

Tottenham .....33 22 1 10 64 34 67

Arsenal .....30 6 7 66 40 66

Chelsea .....34 20 6 8 57 36 66

Man Utd .....33 19 7 7 63 44 64

Leicester .....34 14 5 15 46 45 47

Wolves .....33 13 8 12 41 42 47

Crystal Palace .....34 11 6 17 40 46 39

Burnley .....34 11 6 17 42 60 39

Newcastle .....34 10 8 16 32 43 38

Southampton .....33 9 9 15 39 54 36

Brighton .....33 9 6 18 32 53 33

Cardiff .....34 9 4 21 30 63 31

Fulham .....34 5 5 24 32 76 20

Huddersfield .....34 3 5 26 19 67 14

**Scottish Championship:** Morton 2 Inverness CT 2

**National League North:** Altrincham 1 Brackley 2

**National League South:** Truro City 1 Concord Rangers 3

**Fixtures** (7.45 unless stated)

**UEFA Champions League Quarter-Final, Second Leg:** FC Porto v Liverpool (8pm), Man City v Tottenham Hotspur (8pm)

**FA Women's Super League:** Everton v Birmingham City (7pm), Yeovil v Reading

**FA Women's Championship:** Man Utd v Aston Villa (7pm).

**Tennis**

**ATP Rolex Monte-Carlo Masters, Monte-Carlo, Monaco, 1st rd:** Taylor Harry Fritz (USA) bt Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (Fra) 6-4 0 ret,

Cameron Norrie (Gbr) bt Adrian Mannarino (Fra) 6-4 6-3, Pierre-Hugues Herbert (Fra) bt Fernando Verdasco (Spa) 6-4 6-4, Felix Auger-Aliassime (Can) bt Juan Ignacio Londero (Arg) 7-5 6-3, Gilles Simon (Fra) bt Alexei Popyrin (Aus) 7-5 6-1.

# Reds launch complaint as they look to run-in

**RICHARD SUTCLIFFE**

BARNESLEY have made a formal complaint to English football's governing bodies over the alleged assault on head coach Daniel Stendel by Joey Barton.

The Fleetwood Town chief is reported to have confronted his Reds counterpart in the tunnel following Saturday's League One game at Oakwell.

South Yorkshire Police are investigating the allegation, while Barnsley have now referred the

matter to both the Football Association and the Football League.

"Barnsley Football Club can confirm that it has lodged a formal complaint to both the English Football League and the Football Association," read a statement.

"This is following an alleged incident at the conclusion of the match on Saturday 13th April, between Joey Barton and Daniel Stendel."

"The club is also currently working with the police and assisting with all enquiries regard-

ing the incident. No further comment will be issued until police investigations are ongoing."

Reds striker Cauley Woodrow claimed after the match in a tweet – later deleted – that Barton had "physically assaulted" Stendel. Woodrow also alleged the German had been left with "blood pouring from his face".

Sky Sports News later broadcast footage showing Barton leaving Oakwell, only for the car he

was travelling in to be stopped by police in the car park.

On the pitch, Barnsley are locked in a thrilling race for automatic promotion.

Just three points separate Stendel's men in second place from Charlton Athletic in fifth. Both Sunderland and Portsmouth, the sides sitting third and fourth, respectively, who meet at the Stadium of Light on April 27, have a game in hand on the Reds and the Addicks.

Barnsley host Shrewsbury Town on Good Friday and then travel to Plymouth Argyle three

days later. A home game with Blackpool and the May 4 trip to Bristol Rovers then round off what is certain to be an enthralling run-in.

Midfielder Mike Bähré said: "I am 100 per cent sure that if we win our four games then we will get promoted straight away, without play-offs."

"I am confident, the guys are in a good mood and good shape, back into a winning way and the feeling around the place is one of confidence."



**JOEY BARTON:** Fleetwood Town manager is subject of an official complaint from Barnsley.

# Successful Easter hunt can lead to cherished golden egg

**Two matches in four days over the holiday period so late in the season can have a dramatic bearing on how clubs fare. Richard Sutcliffe reports.**

FOOTBALLERS and their jaded limbs may not agree but there has always been something special about the Easter weekend.

The double-headers that the Premier League gave up a dozen years ago invariably throw up excitement and tension in equal measure, especially if – as is the case this year – the moveable feast falls towards the end of April.

Enjoy a good Easter and the promotion or title success everyone has worked so hard for over the preceding nine months is almost at hand.

Suffer a holiday from hell, however, and the dream can be almost over. Leeds United and Sheffield United, locked in a race for the Premier League, will be well aware of this heading into this veritable roller-coaster of football fortunes, as will League One duo Barnsley and Doncaster Rovers.

The White Rose quartet are all firmly in the hunt for promotion and know a successful Easter hunt for six points is likely to make all the difference.

Ditto Rotherham United, desperate to breathe fresh life into their own Championship survival hopes when tackling Swansea City and Birmingham City inside four days.

One man knows all about how this time of year can make or break a season is Dean Windass.

He was part of the Bradford City side who were six points adrift of safety in the Premier League with just five games to play in 2000 only to be brought back to life by an Easter haul of four points.

"We played Derby on Good Friday," recalls the 50-year-old to The Yorkshire Post about a crazy game featuring four penalties and a red card for Rory Delap.

"They were one of the teams

and screamed, 'We can do it' as all the lads piled on top of him. We took the mickey out of 'Tumble' in training every day after that."

"But he was right. After getting those four points, we won two of the last three to stay up."

Since the turn of the Millennium, Bradford are far from the only Yorkshire side to have had their fate effectively settled by an Easter break that falls as late as this year.

Five years ago, for instance, York City were eighth in League Two and a point behind Oxford United and Southend United.

Back-to-back holiday wins over the U's and Bury, and the Minsters were on their way to the play-offs.

Playing twice in quick

succession can, of course, work the other way if a team suddenly falls out of form.

In 2011, Leeds United were two points clear of the chasing pack in the race for the Championship play-offs with just four games left. A draw at home to Reading and a 1-0 loss at Crystal Palace later, however, and Simon Grayson's men had slipped to ninth.

Nigel Pearson's Hull City were also firmly in the hunt for the top six that year but also claimed just one point from a possible six to crush those play-off hopes.

Completing the quartet of Easters that have fallen towards the end of April since the turn of the Millennium is 2003, a year when Huddersfield Town were battling against relegation to the basement division. After starting

the holiday weekend with a battling goalless draw at home to champions-elect Wigan Athletic, the third-bottom Terriers took an early lead at Stockport County two days later through Andy Booth but ultimately lost 2-1.

Town never recovered and relegation followed with the club five points adrift of safety.

Another to stumble at Easter is Rotherham United, who in the same year Bradford and Windass pulled off their 'Great Escape' allowed the initiative in the Third Division title race to swing the way of Swansea City.

The Millers, two points clear going into the holiday, failed to recover from a 1-0 loss at Barnet as the Swans claimed not only a maximum six points but also, two weeks later, the silverware.

Those Yorkshire sides either chasing promotion or battling against the drop right now will be hoping Easter 2019 is remembered for all the right reasons.

Windass added: "Easter changed everything at Bradford in 2000 and I am sure plenty of clubs have felt the same down the years."

"No-one gave us a chance of staying up. But Easter was late and those four points really kicked us on. A lot of teams will be thinking they can do the same this year."

"A good Easter, and who knows what will happen?"

**FOOTBALL TALK**

Hear Richard Sutcliffe discuss the Championship promotion race: [yorkshirepost.co.uk/sport](http://yorkshirepost.co.uk/sport)

PICTURE: PHIL NOBLE/PA



**CHAMPAGNE MOMENT:** Bradford City's Dean Windass cracks open the bubbly after his side avoided relegation by beating Liverpool following a successful Easter in 2000.

# 'Failure' Guardiola calls for City fans to 'do it for the guys'

**MANCHESTER CITY V TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR CHAMPIONS LEAGUE**

**PEP GUARDIOLA:** Hoping City fans can help inspire their team to overturn one-goal deficit.

human beings. They will have bad moments in the games and at that moment we need our supporters.

"At this stage, without supporters, we cannot go through. I'm expecting."

"Do it for the guys – the last 20 months, they are so proud with what they have done but they are

Guardiola alluded to his own perceived failings in the competition as he attempted to communicate directly to supporters during his pre-match press conference.

He twice guided Barcelona to Champions League glory but was unable to repeat that at Bayern Munich and is yet to reach the semi-finals with City.

He said: "Sorry guys, I'm a failure in this competition but many times I played in the semi-final and quarter-finals, and every time I played away the atmosphere was really incredible. They support their local teams."

"We need it. Really, we need it."

City face Spurs again in the Premier League on Saturday and, with a derby at Manchester United coming next week, the coming days are vital to their season as they chase an unprecedented quadruple.

City face Spurs again in the build-up to the match, saying this season they have often played like "the best team in the world", but Klopp took it with a pinch of salt.

Liverpool are aiming to dump Porto out of the Champions League for a second year running and go into the second leg of their quarter-final at the Estadio Dragao leading 2-0 from last week's first leg at Anfield.

## Rugby league

# Sneyd glad to sort Hull future as Fifita commits to Trinity

**PETER SMITH**  
HULL FC and Wakefield Trinity have both been boosted by a big-name player signing a new contract.

Two-time Lance Todd Trophy winner Marc Sneyd has ended speculation over his future by re-signing for Hull until the end of 2022.

And prop David Fifita, who is top of the Steve Prescott Man of

Steel voting, has committed himself to Trinity for a similar period. Sneyd joined Hull in 2015 and has kicked 408 goals and 24 drop goals including the golden-point extra-time winner at Catalans Dragons last Saturday.

Hull's player of the year in 2016, when he won the first of back-to-back Challenge Cup final man of the match awards, Sneyd described his new contract as "a massive weight off my shoulders".

The 28-year-old former Salford and Castleford Tigers half-back said: "Now I can fully concentrate on playing my rugby for Hull rather than worrying about my future."

"The rugby is going really well at the moment and my family is really settled here in Hull, so there was never any reason for us to move away."

"I am really looking forward to just cracking on in the next few

years and hopefully we get the chance to win a few more trophies."

"I'm really happy at the club, it is a good place to be, it is a good setup and I think we are going places."

"The future looks very promising for us."

Meanwhile, Fifita, 29, whose previous contract was due to expire at the end of this season, has set his sights on helping Trin-

ity win silverware over the next three seasons.

The Australian-born, Tongan international front-rower has made a big impact since joining Wakefield from Cronulla Sharks in 2016.

"I just couldn't leave Wakefield," he insisted. "For what they've given me and what the fans have given me, I just want to give something back to them."

"My goal now is to bring a tro-

phy to this club. The bond between the players is something I've never had with any other club and I just can't wait for the journey ahead."

Wakefield have also re-signed winger Mason Caton-Brown who scored 26 tries in 27 appearances from 2017 to last year when he joined Toronto Wolfpack.

Caton-Brown, 25, is poised to make his second debut in tomorrow's derby at Castleford Tigers.

## Question

Will an English club win this year's Champions League?

Vote YES or NO on our website [yorkshirepost.co.uk/sport](http://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/sport)

Or by replying YES or NO on our Twitter feed @YPSport

Or join the debate by adding your comments online.

## YESTERDAY'S RESULT

Will Tiger Woods beat Jack Nicklaus's record of 18 major championships?

Yes 14% No 86%

## Briefing

Vunipola is warned to expect more flak

**RUGBY UNION:** Mark McCall expects fans to again boo Billy Vunipola following the Saracens and England forward's official warning from the RFU for a homophobic Instagram comment.

Rugby director McCall confirmed Vunipola will start Saturday's Champions Cup semi-final against Munster at the Ricoh Arena, then said the No 8 must handle whatever flak comes his way.

The 41-cap back-rower has been warned by both club and country after a social media post last week that read "man was made for woman to procreate that was the goal no?"

The England star had liked a social media post from Australia's Israel Folau, that stated "hell awaits" for "homosexuals", and was subsequently booed by supporters during Saracens' 23-21 Premiership defeat at Bristol on Saturday.

Asked if he hopes fans will not boo Vunipola again, McCall said: "That's not something we can control to be honest. Whatever happens will happen."

"He has got to deal with that, and we've got to deal with that as a group."

Wallabies full-back Folau's career is in tatters after he was sacked by the Australian Rugby Union (ARU) for his controversial Instagram post.

## Competitive edge is required for GB

**ICE HOCKEY:** Head coach Pete Russell expects competition for places to be "intense" in the coming days as his Great Britain squad prepares for their biggest World Championships challenge in 25 years.

"It's a fresh challenge, there's some clear goals about where the club wants to be in three years and he's sold me the dream."

Firstly, though, Burrows is due to face his next employers when Coventry visit Doncaster on Saturday in the penultimate round of this campaign.

He said: "If I'm picked it'll be just another game for me – but also a good opportunity to show the Coventry fans what sort of player I am before next season."

Russell got together with his players in Coventry last night for the start of their training camp, with Sheffield Steelers' Jackson Whistle, Davey Phillips, Ben O'Connor and Robert Dowd and Jonathan Phillips all involved.

"We have a deep squad and competition for places will be intense over the next few days," said Russell, who led his team to a stunning gold medal triumph in Hungary last year to earn promotion back to the elite tier.

**Peaty claims title**

**SWIMMING:** Adam Peaty claimed the British 100-metres breastroke title but was a fair way off his best time in Glasgow.

The 24-year-old came home in 57.87 seconds, short of his 57.10 best, but was happy with the way he started.

James Wilby was second in 58.66 with Ross Murdoch taking bronze ahead of fellow Scot Craig Benson.

Peaty said: "It's not the time to do a fast time for me. I know that deep down. But it's looking good for the Worlds."

**Norrie progresses**

**TENNIS:** Cameron Norrie is through to the second round of the Monte-Carlo Masters after a straight sets victory against Adrian Mannarino.

The 23-year-old Briton was on court for one hour and 19 minutes as he prevailed 6-4 6-3, sending down three aces in the match.

He will now take on Marton Fucsovics in the second round after the Hungarian surprised 12th seeded Nikoloz Basilashvili in three sets.

## Sport on TV

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## Rugby union

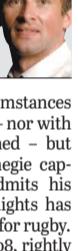
## MOVING ON: FORMER CARNEGIE STAR LAMENTS CLUB'S DECISION TO GO PART-TIME

# Dream of top-flight return is still on for Burrows



HOME FROM HOME: Ryan Burrows admits it felt "weird" to face his former Carnegie team-mates at Headingley on Sunday. PICTURE: TONY JOHNSON.

**Dave Craven**  
RUGBY UNION WRITER



I've come back (to Yorkshire) for personal reasons.

"My brother passed away a few weeks ago so I've come back for that reason: to be close to my family at this time."

"And it has sort of reinvigorated my love for the game a little bit more, just to get back enjoying playing at a good standard with a good bunch of lads."

Burrows, 30, has spent the last two seasons with Newcastle, and has signed for Championship club Coventry on a three-year deal starting next term.

He made just eight Premiership appearances for the Falcons, but has not regretted making the move after Carnegie missed their own promotion chance of elevation in the 2016-17 Championship final against London Irish.

Burrows explained: "I loved it. I played 30 games. And some good games."

"There were only a handful in the Premiership but I played a lot of European fixtures, captaining them in some big games, and took a lot out of it."

"I think I've improved as a player and I think my leadership has come on as well."

"It was two years where I've

gone away, improved as a player and it's something I'm looking to take forward for the rest of this year with Doncaster and then Coventry after that."

But how surreal was it playing against his former Carnegie colleagues in Sunday's 21-12 defeat?

"It was weird," he said, having also been sin-binned during the contest. "I don't normally get nervous before games but on the bus on the way up with the Donny boys there were butterflies in the stomach."

"It was weird coming back here and wearing a Doncaster shirt; with no offence to Doncaster it is something that I probably didn't envisage doing this soon."

"I'd have loved to have come back here (Carnegie) but unfortunately this club is in a difficult

position and I feel for the boys. Hopefully they can pull through and get some jobs out of it."

Cash-strapped Carnegie, of course, made the painful announcement last week that they will become a part-time operation next term.

The club had hoped to make a concerted push for promotion back into the elite in 2019-20 but are now instead facing a far more invidious proposition following a failure to secure funding.

Burrows said: "I don't want to slag them as it's a great club and it means a lot to me. It was difficult to take when I heard the news."

"But reading between the lines it's been a long time coming: they have promised, and promised, and promised and here they are – eight years since I signed origi-

nally – and the chat now is of part-time."

A club of this magnitude – when you look at the stadium, the pitch, the squad they've got together – bottom at Christmas but now pushing for a top-five spot and probably one of the form teams in the league.

"A bit of backing and Premiership rugby is not far around the corner but ultimately they have decided to go down a different route. It's a massive shame for rugby not only in Leeds but in Yorkshire and the northern area."

Burrows, then, finds himself joining Coventry for the next chapter of his career, a club who do have bold ambitions to make the top-flight.

"They certainly are (ambitious)," he said. "I went to speak to

(director of rugby) Rowland (Winter).

"They are frustrated with where they are this year."

"I think they have only lost a couple of games at home but the disappointing thing for them is that they haven't won a game away from there."

"It's a fresh challenge, there's some clear goals about where the club wants to be in three years and he's sold me the dream."

Firstly, though, Burrows is due to face his next employers when Coventry visit Doncaster on Saturday in the penultimate round of this campaign.

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## Motor-cycling

## Ready to attack 'toughest domestic championship in world'



READY FOR ACTION: Kawasaki rider Dean Harrison, of Bradford, is fully geared up for the new season. PICTURE: STEPHEN DAVISON/PACEMAKER

**Taking on the factory teams will be far from easy but a Yorkshire biker is gunning for them on two fronts. Mark Absolon reports.**

BRADFORD'S Dean Harrison will begin his dual bid for short-circuit and road-racing glory at Silverstone this weekend.

The 30-year-old Isle of Man TT winner will be on the grid for the opening two rounds of the 2019 British Superbike Championship on Sunday looking to put his Silicone Engineering Racing Kawasaki right in the mix for points and top-10 finishes.

While Harrison may not be in one of the top factory teams, he showed real promise in his debut season last year, picking up a couple of 12th-placed finishes while taking part in just four rounds.

Twelve months on and the

West Yorkshire rider will be competing in nine of the 12 rounds and, as a celebrated road-racer, he is determined to make his mark on the championship.

"Most people start with short-circuit racing and then progress to road-racing but I did it the other way round as I was always at road races as a kid," said Harrison. "If someone had said to me five years ago 'you'll be in British Superbikes' I'd never have believed it in a million years... now I'm doing it nearly full time."

Harrison is not underestimating the difficulty of the task that awaits him.

"The BSB is the toughest

30-odd bikes on the grid so we want to get some points on the board but the plan is to get in the top 10."

As well as Silverstone, Harrison will compete in the rounds at Oulton Park (twice), Knockhill, Snetterton, Assen, Donington Park and Brands Hatch.

Unlike nearly all of his BSB contemporaries, Harrison will also be going all out for victories in all the blue riband road races of the year. He will compete at the North West 200 in Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man TT, the Southern 100, the Ulster Grand Prix and will be at Oliver's

